The Middlebury Campus

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PALANA Flood Dampens Halloween Spirits

By Megan O'Keefe
NEWS EDITOR

Halloween was set to be the public debut of the Pan-African Latino Native American (PALANA) Center's new home in Carr Hall. But the inaugural celebration — which included a haunted house for local children and an open, registered party both sponsored by Distinguished Men of Color (DMC) — was almost cancelled when heavy rainfall flooded the basement of Carr Hall on Oct. 27 and 29.

On Friday afternoon, PALANA residents, members of DMC and commons residential staff helped in a hurried effort to decorate a room on the first floor of PALANA in anticipation of the children's party hours later, while giant air blowers dried still-damp wall-to-wall carpeting in the building's basement. Haunted house decorations set up in the spacious, recently revamped basement lounge during an open house the week before were washed away in a flood that left the facility soaked and foul-smelling.

In addition to temporarily closing the PALANA Center's primary social space, the flood threatened a major portion of the College's telephone system. Hundreds of electrical and telephone cords running on and near the floor of the technical rooms were soaked with water from the flood.

Rainwater entered the building through cracks in the foundation and the floor of two telephone and network equipment rooms located in the basement, pouring out of the rooms and into the PALANA social space.

Describing the condition of the basement after the flood, Residential Advisor of PALANA Athenia Fischer '04 said, "It looks horrible and it smells." While the children's haunted house was accommodated elsewhere in the residence hall, plans for the open party on Friday night remained uncertain throughout the week. Flyers posted on bulletin boards across campus announced that the DMC

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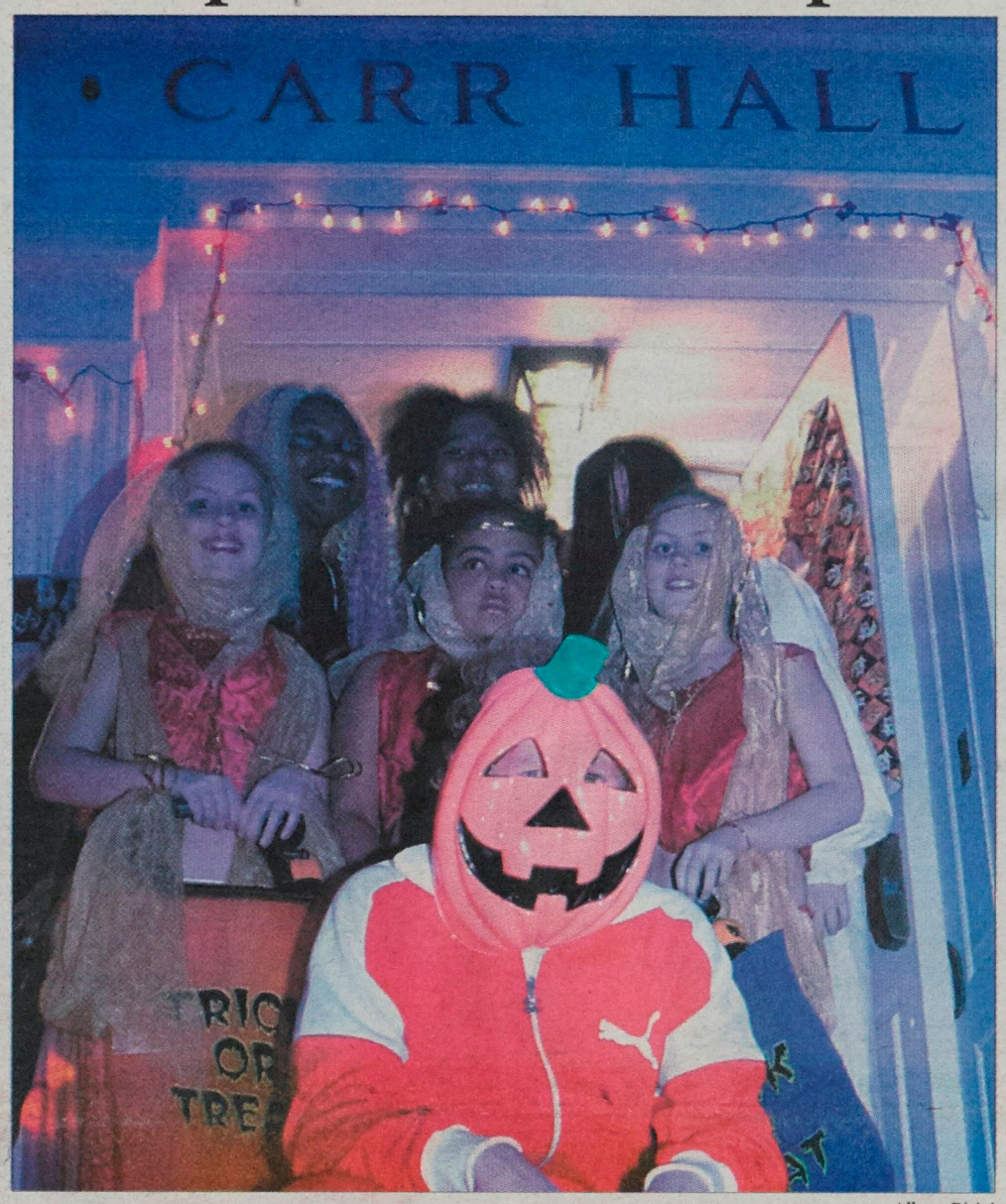

Albert Bitici

Local Middlebury children enjoyed the DMC-sponsored haunted house and trick-or-treating in Carr Hall despite the relocation of the party due to a leak in the building's basement.

Sex Crime Statistics: A Sign of Progress?

By Daniel Phillips
NEWS EDITOR

NEWS ANALYSIS

Statistics can be misleading. Such is the case with recent sex offense statistics released by the Middlebury College Department of Public Safety on Oct. 20. Crime as a whole — robbery, burglary, aggravated assault and arson — has gone down on campus, but before the College breathes a collective sigh of relief, it should be aware that reported forcible sex offenses have more than tripled, rising from two reports in 2001 to seven in 2002, with one case already reported in the first half of 2003.

A rise in reported sex offense statistics can be considered a good thing on any college campus, however paradoxical that may seem. It is widely understood that sex offenses, both forcible and non-forcible, occur regardless of whether or not they are in fact reported.

According Middlebury Police Department Chief Tom Hanley, sexual assault, which includes, but is not limited to, rape, is the most underreported crime due to the stigma that is involved. Public Safety announced the first of the College's biannual publications of this year's reported security data, assembled by the Dean of Student Affairs Office and the Middlebury Police Department. The security report was released in compliance with the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act.

The Police Department provides Public Safety with statistical information regarding crimes on public and private property adjacent or contiguous to campus, as defined by federal law. Hanley noted that hospitals are required by law to store the data of all tests taken from victims in an index within the Police Department's inventory. Victims of sexual assault are often particularly sensitive to the hospital investigation and court proceedings that could ensue after reporting such a crime, so most choose to remain unheard and unnoticed.

"A big part of the reason sexual assaults have been underreported on this campus, and college campuses across the country," said Elizabeth Brookbank '04, president of Feminist Action at Middlebury (FAM), "is because there is a lack of awareness which makes survivors feel isolated." Brookbank continued, "People have the idea that this type of assault does not happen here. When it does, it is

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College Braces for Real-Time Registration

By Andrea Gissing
NEWS EDITOR

The time students have eagerly been awaiting, or dreading, is at hand: "Real-Time Registration" on BannerWeb. Course registration for winter term started at 7 a.m. Wednesday, Nov. 5 and will be open until 7 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 8. Spring term registration begins Monday, Nov. 17 at 7 a.m., and will close Saturday, Nov. 22.

BannerWeb, which was first introduced to the College for employees in Jan. 2002, replaces the MARS system of registration. "When the College selected Banner as its system for managing campus data and records, one of the primary objectives was to get the entire campus using just one system, rather than various systems in different areas that couldn't always talk to each other," said Kathy Weiss, registrar and assistant dean of enrollment. The new system offers

SEE BANNERWEB, PAGE 5

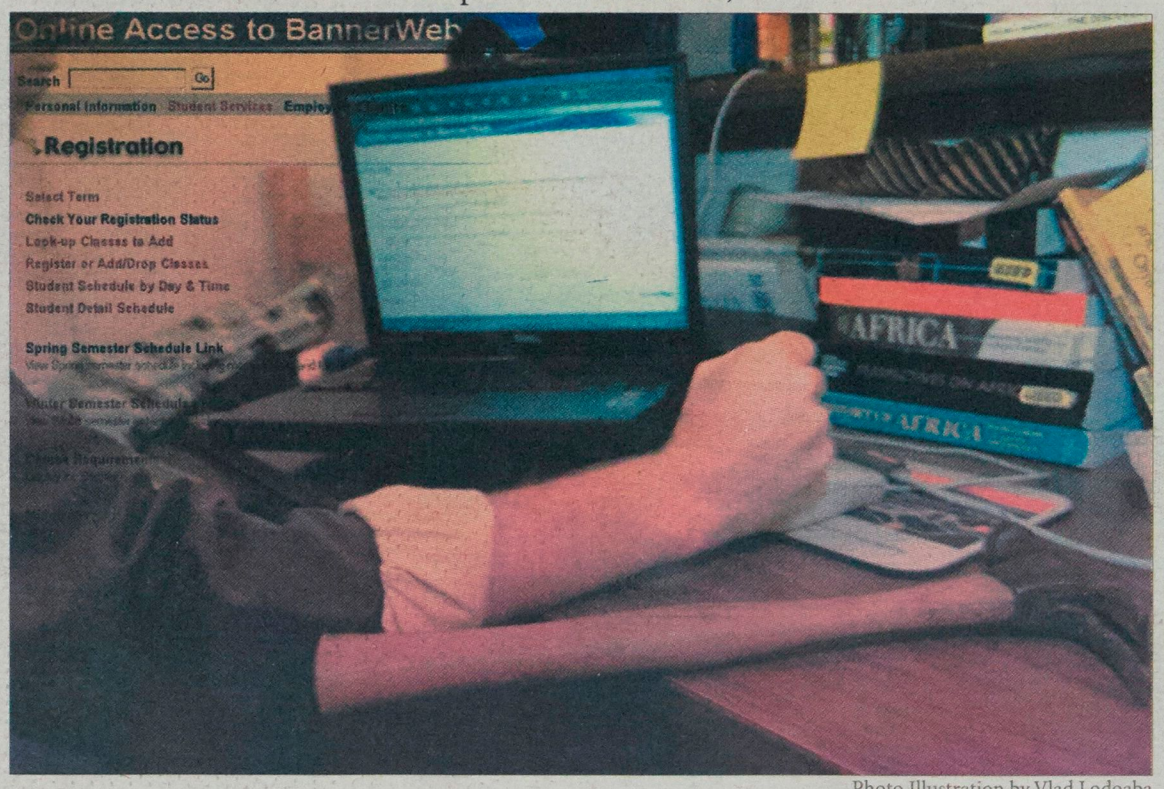

Photo Illustration by Vlad Lodoaba

Students struggled to familiarize themselves with the new real-time registration system, BannerWeb, this week.

P.E. Bill Gains SGA Support

By Ilyse Mehlman
STAFF WRITER

In a unanimous vote of 14-0, the Student Government Association (SGA) passed the "Physical Education Requirement Resolution" on Nov. 2, sending to the administration for consideration a bill that will afford student-athletes more flexibility to fulfill Middlebury's two required physical education courses through participation on athletic teams. The bill addresses the current stipulations of the Middlebury College Handbook, which states: "As a part of Middlebury's degree requirement, each student must complete two different physical education courses by the end of the sophomore year. Each course carries one unit of physical education credit by participating in a season of varsity or junior varsity intercollegiate athletics. Two credits can be earned by participation in two different sports."

Written by Kevin Sullivan '04.5 when he served as an SGA senator between 2001 and 2002, the Resolution explains, "One season of any intercollegiate athletic team at the varsity, junior varsity or club level is a significant time commitment

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www.middleburycampus.com

MiddBriefs

by Andrea Gissing, Joshua Carson and Myra Palmero

Inspections Light Our Fire

Fire Safety month kicked off with a spark as each Commons organized and executed an inspection of all rooms, suites and houses on campus. While not all data has been collected, it appears that this year is markedly better in terms of student safety than past years since the number of fire violations were negligible.

During fire safety inspection, a team of commons and facilities management staff entered each room to ensure that the student's quarters were being kept in a manner consistent with the guidelines established in the Middlebury College Handbook. The Handbook delineates rules concerning tapestries, candles, halogen lights, incense, portable heaters and Christmas tree lights. College guidelines prohibit the door from being blocked, fire alarms from being tampered with and the sprinkler apparatus from being obstructed. While the Handbook imposes a $25 dollar fine against anyone who has violated these rules, the fine is waived during the safety inspections. Instead, articles in question are confiscated and the owner is not charged. The items can be collected at the end of this month, before Thanksgiving break, to be brought back home.

If Public Safety discovers a fire safety violation in the future, the officer will issue a fine, depending on the severity of the infringement. The main concern of the fire inspections is to ensure that no objects — like tapestries or posters — are obstructing the fire alarms. Sarah Jones '02, commons residential advisor (CRA) of Wonnacott Commons and Jason Vrooman '03, CRA of Brainerd Commons reported that violations were minimal in their respective commons. Assistant Director of Custodial Services Linda Ross, who has been with the College for over 23 years and inspected the social houses this year, stated that this was one of the safest years of her tenure for the houses.

Vlad Lodoaba

Candles and other contraband were confiscated during fire inspections.

Phi Beta Kappa Inducts Twelve

Twelve students were inducted into Middlebury College's chapter of Phi Beta Kappa Saturday, Nov. 1, at a ceremony held in the Redfield Proctor Room.

Professor of History and President of the Middlebury Chapter of Phi Beta Kappa Don Wyatt gave the welcoming address to the 80 audience members, consisting of a diverse group of parents, siblings and extended family members of the inductees, College faculty as well as the inductees. President John McCardell followed with the introduction of the new members of Phi Beta Kappa and the presentation of the historical Phi Beta Kappa Keys.

"Induction requires exceptional and broad academic achievement, mainly as reflected in fabulous grades on one's transcript," said Wyatt. "The students who become Phi Beta Kappans are — to a person — intellectually driven and committed to high personal achievement." This year's inductees, elected to the chapter after three years of study at Middlebury College were Ryan Abernathey '04, Paul Armstrong '04, Claire Bourne '04, Lila Buckley '04, Dimiter Kenarov '04.5, Pascale LaFountain '04.5, Mary Montgomery '04, Emily Peterman '04, Kaelin Rasmussen '04, D. Hunter Smith '04, Richard Chesley Thurber III '04 and Kyle Viani '04.

Wyatt continued by saying, "Induction also thrusts certain lifelong obligations upon the inductee — not the least of which is continued intellectual leadership, regardless of what career one pursues after graduation."

Middlebury Fan on ESPN

In late November, ESPN Sports Center will showcase "Pick Up Butch," a 42-year-old tradition of the Middlebury College football and basketball teams. For the last four decades, two first-years on the football and basketball teams have been picking up Butch Varno at his house to take him to their games. Varno, a 54-year-old Middlebury resident with cerebral palsy, eagerly waits at his house, where he lives with his 73-year-old mother, for the two athletes to pick him up and drive him to the stands or stadium.

While Director of Athletic Communications Brad Nadeau said that "Pick Up Butch" is a tradition that Middlebury College has taken as commonplace, *Rutland Herald* reporter Tom Haley thought the tradition would make an interesting human-interest story. Haley then sent *Sports Illustrated*'s Rick Reilly a copy of his published article and soon after, Reilly surprised Nadeau with a phone call for more information. Nadeau said, "It's one of those things that it went on for so long [that] it took an outsider [for us] to realize what a special thing this is. It's just something we do. It's just a part of the vision — nobody acts like they're doing anyone a big favor. It's been done and it will continue to be done."

After the article appeared in the March 2003 issue of *Sports Illustrated*, ESPN picked up the story and drove over to Middlebury on the weekends of Sept. 27 and Oct. 11 to interview Varno for the 10-minute feature on him and his college comrades. ESPN Sports Center will air the piece to its 11 million viewers on several Sunday nights. Nadeau said, "We hope that people can be aware of Butch's story and the great things that he has brought to Middlebury and the great things that the students have given him over the years."

Few Faculty Meet for J-Term, ADA Update

By Taylor Johnston
Staff Writer

> Some things may come up that make professors uncomfortable, and we are here to help with that.
> —Jodi Litchfield, ADA Coordinator

The Middlebury College faculty convened on Monday for a sparsely attended meeting, which consisted largely of informational reports from various committees.

The faculty committee exploring Winter Term reform possibilities postponed an anticipated discussion, claiming its investgation remains in the preliminary stages. On Sept. 5, the faculty met at the Breadloaf Campus to discuss various benefits and drawbacks of Winter Term.

Recently, members of the faculty have called into question the effectiveness of the Winter Term program in accomplishing its so-called "idealistic" academic goals and voiced concerns about a lackadaisical "student culture" associated with the term. Though the committee has set no deadline for bringing its report before the faculty, it anticipates a discussion of the issue at the January faculty meeting.

Coordinator of the Americans with Disabilities Act Jodi Litchfield delivered a report about the resources the office has to offer both students and their professors.

"We work as facilitators between faculty, staff and students," explained Litchfield. "Some things may come up that make professors uncomfortable, and we are here to help with that."

According to Litchfield, one out of every 18 students at Middlebury College lives with some sort of disability. Twenty-two percent of those students have some sort of learning disability, 11 percent have a psychological disorder, seven percent are dyslexic and the rest have some other impairment — such as a physical disability or mobility problem. She anticipated the ratio will drop to one in every 17 students by next year.

The office offers a number of services to help these students, including working with professors to allow up to double time on an exam and arranging for other special exam provisions. Litchfield stressed that professors should keep student disabilities confidential and work through the office to help prevent abuses of the system.

Several other committees, departments and faculty members gave brief reports at the meeting. Dean of Library and Information Services Barbara Doyle-Wilch gave an update on the new BannerWeb registration, and President John McCardell presented a long list of recent faculty accomplishments.

McCardell adjourned the meeting, anticipating looming end-of-term anxiety. "As you all know we are now entering into a time when the weather will get gloomier, days will get shorter, and stress will mount for reasons both known and unanticipated. It is important to take into account the realities of this season," he advised.

The faculty will hold its next meeting on Dec. 8.

On Call

Vlad Lodoaba

Relaxing in the rig, *James Fuller '05 and Chris Barron '05, members of the Middlebury Volunteer Ambulance Association, stay alert during the last football game of the season against Hamilton College on Saturday.*

Armstrong's Essay Merits Ward Accolade

By Chelsea Coffin
Staff Writer

Students, faculty, parents and friends gathered in Gifford Lounge to honor 21 sophomore students at the presentation of the Paul W. Ward '25 Memorial Prize last Friday.

Dorothy Cate Ward '28 established the prize in 1978 in honor of her husband, Paul W. Ward '25, to recognize and award students for exceptional pieces of writing completed during their first year. Paul W. Ward was awarded the Pulitzer Prize and the French Legion of Honor for his work as a journalist and diplomatic reporter.

Supported by Ward's family, the prize is judged for qualities that he considered essential to conveying a message effectively to an audience: "Precise and exact usage of words, exact meanings and phrases expressed lucidly and gracefully."

Grace E. Armstrong '06 won the first prize for "Privacy, Piracy and the DMCA," written for Assistant Professor American Civilization & Film and Media Culture Professor Jason Mittell's "America Media Industries" class. Her paper examined the future of intellectual property rights and their enforcement in light of the Digital Millennium Copyright Act of 1998 (DMCA).

Throughout the semester, Mittell had been impressed by Armstrong's level of work in a 300-level class, assuming her to be an upperclassman until late in the semester. Mittell chose her essay for her logical explanation of "an idea that is not easy for students, faculty or the government to understand."

In the excerpt of the paper Armstrong read aloud, she argued that although the rights of the intellectual copyright owner should be protected, privacy rights of the individual should not be violated in the process.

Associate Professor of English and Assistant Dean for Instruction Kathleen Skubikowski welcomed the guests and emphasized the role of writing in a liberal arts education, stating, "We as faculty know the value of writing as a tool to communicate."

Skubikowski also acknowledged Associate Professor of Theatre Leger Grindon and Assistant Professor of Writing Hector Vila for judging the nominated essays.

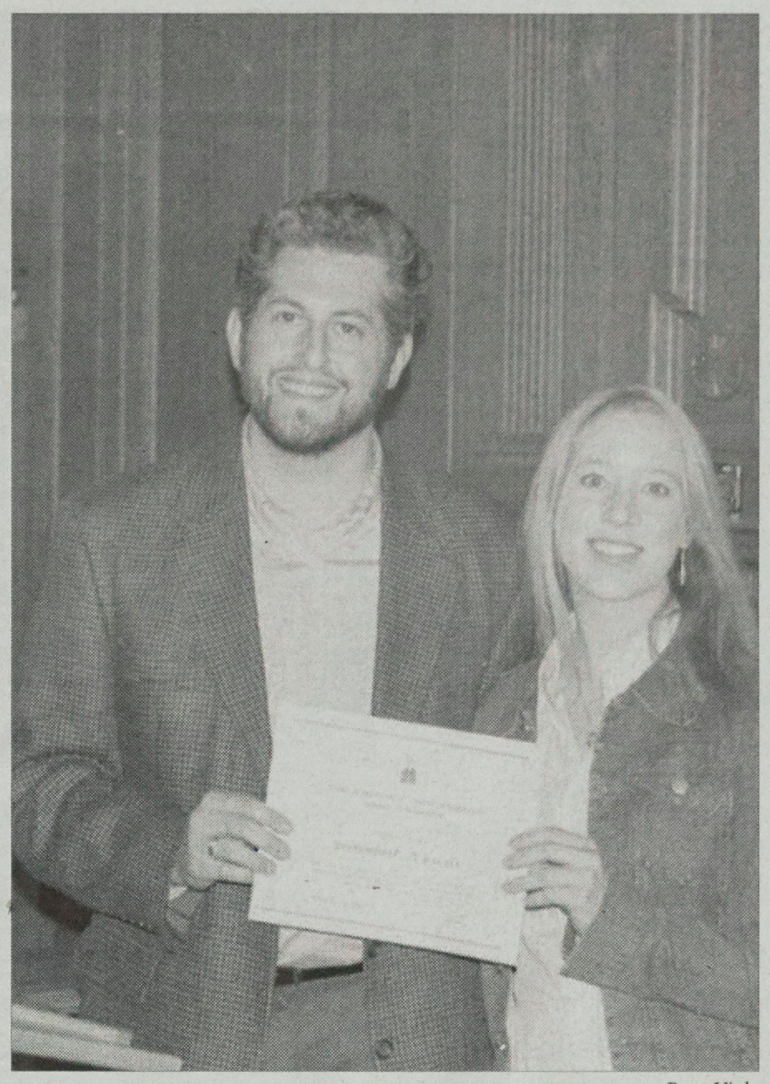
Stewart Professor of English and Environmental Studies John C. Elder read a portion of his essay recently published in *Tricycle*, a contemporary Buddhist magazine, to open the presentation. His narrative connected a Robert Frost poem, "Dust of Snow," to an afternoon spent in the woods.

Runner-ups included Memory B. Peebles '06 and Kate Elias '06, who were nominated for two papers. Sam W. Harnett '06, Jenny A. Kaplan '06 and April V. Peet '06.5 earned Honorable Mentions.

Other nominees included Gonzalo A. Alonso '06, Sarah R. Applebaum '06, Alison T. Damick '06, Cole Dovey '06, Rachel E. Durfee '06, Rebeccah J. Duvoisin '06, Megan E. Guffin '06, Jessica L. Hallett '06, Mari Kim '06, Clifford S. McDonald '06, Martin Rajcan '06, Anna Spiegel '06, Tara S. Vanacore '06, Jessica P. Van Wagenen '06 and Elizabeth A. Zane '06.

Their paper topics varied from the Gothic and Romanesque influences in a Middlebury church to electricity's arrival in Addison County to the role of fathers — and everything in between.

Submissions included traditional papers, creative writing and even Weblogs.



Peter Viola

Grace E. Armstrong '06 displays her certificate for this year's Ward Prize.

Media Outlets Compete in College Ranking Arena

'Best Colleges' Lists Proliferate as Mags Try to Snag Newsstand Sales

By Claire M. L. Bourne
Managing Editor

NEWS ANALYSIS

America loves lists. Parcel almost any series of related information into an easily digestible top-10 format, announce its existence in a prominent position on the cover of any magazine and you've got yourself a publication that will fly off newsstands. *Entertainment Weekly* produces an "It List" of who's hot in pop culture, *People* rates the most beautiful people in the world and *Fortune* ranks the movers and shakers in the business world.

Twenty years ago, *U.S. News & World Report* virtually rode the college rankings bandwagon alone. Since 1983, when the magazine first published its now famous list of "America's Best Colleges," a handful of other publications have entered the fray. Today more than ever, prospective students find themselves in the midst of a media war zone as magazines, newspapers and Web sites vie for a slice of the increasingly lucrative college prep pie.

Since the beginning of the 2003-04 academic year, at least five national publications have compiled some sort of college rankings, and Middlebury College has been featured in all of them.

But Middlebury's Admissions Office refuses mention of the College's rankings in its literature. "Prospective students should give the school the hardest look possible. They shouldn't trust the rankings," said Director of Admissions John Hanson. In fact, *Middlebury Magazine*, in its fall 2003 edition, is the only college publication to reference them.

Why the sudden surge? Public interest, for one, said Director of Public Affairs Phil Benoit. "The financial success of the *U.S. News* rankings over the years has no doubt been a factor in inspiring others to follow in that path," Benoit said.

And what better way to make a profit than to sell the public what it wants. "This is a society that loves lists. It is recent that this has been applied to college rankings," explained Hanson.

U.S. News: The Rankings "Bastion"?

This year, *U.S. News* placed Middlebury seventh — tied with Davidson College — on its list of "Best Liberal Arts Colleges." Middlebury has bounced all over the top 10 in recent years, ranking as high as fifth. The *U.S. News* ranking is still thought by many to be the most comprehensive and reliable list, but some, like Hanson and Middlebury President John McCardell, are not so sure.

"Any method that gives 20 percent weight to 'peer reputation' is apt to be skewed," said McCardell, in reference to *U.S. News*' attempt to qualify a school by asking administrators and admissions deans from peer institutions to rate it on a scale of one to five. "Peer reputation" is, of course, one of many criteria used to generate a college's final standing, but McCardell maintains that polling college counselors would yield more accurate results. "That, according to *U.S. News*, would be 'too difficult,'" he maintained. "The motive thus becomes ease rather than reliability."

Over the years, the weekly newsmagazine has taken constructive criticism to heart and refined its methodology. But categories like "peer reputation" prove it has not completely eliminated subjective data from its formula. "Can you really judge the level of a college's academic reputation by asking administrators from the group of colleges you are evaluating to rank the institutions in the list, or should you be surveying the marketplace?" asked Benoit.

> The financial success of the *U.S. News* rankings over the years has no doubt been a factor in inspiring others to follow in that path.
>
> —Phil Benoit, director of public affairs

To its credit, the annual *U.S. News* rankings issue ties together a wealth of data in a series of articles and charts. The average reader might not consider the methodology used to generate the final rankings, a reality Hanson, McCardell and Benoit consider troubling. "Once you get into opinion, there are too many confusing variables," said Hanson.

Branching Out

While the *U.S. News* college rankings issue caters to a broad base of prospective students and parents, a number of more specialized publications are now serving up their own top-schools lists.

The Journal of Blacks in Higher Education (*JBHE*) boarded the college ranking train last year when it issued its own top-24 list of liberal arts colleges. The purpose of the ranking was to compare the institutions' "relative success in attracting, enrolling and graduating African-American students as well as their progress in bringing black professors to their campuses."

Middlebury has ranked 20th on *JBHE*'s list for two years running. This year, however, the publication praises the College for upping the allocation of funds to finance interested black students' visits to campus. *JBHE* credits this initiative with the notable rise in black first-year students this year — five percent of the Class of 2007, up from 2.5 percent of last year's first-year class. Hanson linked *JBHE*'s foray into the rankings fold to a growth in social awareness.

For those high school seniors already thinking about business or law school, *The Wall Street Journal* ran a story on Sept. 26 about America's most successful "feeder" colleges — institutions that send the most graduates to the nation's top graduate schools. Middlebury ranked 23rd out of 50 on a list that included research universities and liberal arts schools alike.

The most recent addition to college rankings landscape is *The Atlantic Monthly*'s exhaustive 25-page "exploration of the American college-admissions system." The compendium includes a list of the nation's most highly selective doctoral universities, liberal arts colleges and service academies. Middlebury stands at number 25.

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OVERSEAS BRIEFING

by Edward Pickering

Having travelled relatively little in my life, I am unqualified to discuss the comparative drinking habits of countries. I have only the United States, Scotland and perhaps Australia to work with. Well, let's temporarily forget Australia.

Various statistics, all equally astounding, are quoted concerning the pub-to-person ratio in St. Andrews. That there are numerous pubs is indisputable. That you may take your pick of them on any night of the week is one of St. Andrews' prime pleasures. As far as I can tell, and I've done a little investigating, pubs acquire and lose reputations with surprising ease. That the trendy students frequent pub X this year is no guarantee that they will two years from now. Presently, I spend a considerable time at Broons and Westport, two of the "classier" establishments. For me, it all boils down to location and layout: I am an incipient connoisseur of pub design. The infrastructure of space in which I am drinking determines, to a large extent, my enjoyment. Do I feel cozy? Exposed? Can I freely and inconspicuously people watch? How high are the ceilings? What emotional adjustment is occasioned by this sunken recess? For these and other vital musings I must thank a Middlebury architecture professor. But I digress.

The point is, a great many factors contribute to producing a favourable or unfavourable pub experience. Pubs are as variable as the drinks they serve, which themselves are as variable as the different palates they please. The student union attracts hordes of penurious students. Here, the drinks are cheap. Elsewhere the drinks are sometimes free. Go to the Gin House on a Tuesday night and you'll receive a free shot of Bailey's whenever a U2 songs airs. The Castle, a rather homely little den on North Street, serves all pints for one pound and 80 pence from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m. When the drinks in question vary as much from Guinness to Tennets (not recommended) a flat rate can prove quite enticing. Last Thursday I bought my professor a whiskey and soda at this very pub. I myself drank a pint of Velvets, a creamy concoction half way between a liquid and a meal.

The pubs exert a strong pull at all hours of the day. No, I do not have a drinking problem. I just suffer from a deep appreciation for the pub atmosphere. After a solitary afternoon of reading and running on the beach (industrious pursuits) what better than a single, slow drink with a friend? For such an occasion head to the Victoria. On a Saturday night buzzing with excitement and romantic possibility, head just about anywhere, but make sure to stop by Westport or Lizard at least once.

As for the comparison between drinking habits in Scotland and America, I wouldn't really know. Age (I'm only 20) has limited my stateside experience to closed rooms and kegs. Not much of an experience if you ask me. I warned you I wasn't qualified.

College Continues Citizen Medal Tradition

By Benjamin Salkowe
Staff Writer

McCardell Honors Seven With Bicentennial Citizen's Award

Awards recognize community service, historic college/town friendship.

By Ben Salkowe

Addressing families at the second Fall Family Weekend, President John McCardell noted that Middlebury College shares a special relationship with the local community, having been "founded by and named after the town." The following day, he made actions of his words when he presented seven Middlebury community members with the Middlebury College Bicentennial Citizen's Award.

"These awards recognize the close and historic relationship of the College and town of Middlebury," McCardell remarked at a reception Sunday night before the ceremony's dinner.

The 2003 Medals were awarded to Dr. Diana Barnard, Patricia Boera, Betty Jo Calhoun, Helen G. Haerle, Henry B. Prickitt, Lawrence E. Volkert and Gregory Wry.

In a press release Monday, Secretary of the College Eric Davis explained the criteria. "The medals [are] presented to residents of Addison County who have helped strengthen the community and whose service has been sustained and distinguished. Oftentimes, their efforts have gone unrecognized for many years."

Although the College's actual bicentennial was in 2000, the award has been made annual to demonstrate "that the town and the College share both a history and a future," Davis said.

Nominations for the medals were taken from members of the College community, with the final selections being made by McCardell and others in the administration.

Dr. Barnard provides medical services to underserved patients through Middlebury Family Health and also Community Health Services of Addison County Open Door Clinic. She is a member of the Porter Hospital Ethics, Palliative Care Committees and the Middlebury-based nonprofit Virtual Foundation.

Boera has been the associate director of career planning at Champlain College for 13 years, the Director of Middlebury's Festival on-the-Green for 25 years and also a volunteer for the Henry Sheldon Museum of Vermont History. She has also volunteered for the Middlebury Community Players and the Middlebury Business Association.

Calhoun has served the Frog Hollow Vermont State Craft Center both on the board of directors and as the organization's acting director. She was the auditor of the town of Cornwall

> These awards recognize the close and historic relationship of the College and town of Middlebury.
>
> —President McCardell

and a member of the town's planning commission for nine years, the treasurer of the capital campaign of the Addison County Humane Society for two years, the Middlebury Volunteer Ambulance Association for nine years and the Porter Medical Center Auxiliary for six years.

Haerle worked at Lazarus Department Store from 1974 to 1984, and owned and operated the store from 1984 to 1996. She was a founding board member of Addison County Home Health Care, an active member of the Middlebury Business Association from 1984 to 1996, served on the board of directors of Middlebury Union High School from 1970 to 1977 and on the Middlebury Planning Commission since 1996.

Middlebury College Professor Emeritus of English Prickett, is on the board of the Addison County Community Action Group, the United Way of Addison County and Hospice Volunteer Services where he currently holds the position of board president as well. An honorary trustee of the Henry Sheldon Museum of Vermont History, Prickett is also one of the founders of the Middlebury Community Players.

Volkert works at Shaw's Su-

Vlad Lodoaba
Sam Rodriguez '04, Andrew Carnabuci '06, Ian Ausprey '04 and Asher Burns-Burg '05.5 hear Sunday's deliberations.

Senate Passes SGA Fitness Bill

Continued from page 1

that exposes students to a variety of physical training exercises and techniques."

The resolution maintains that because all athletic teams with coaches on staff require strict attendance, all athletes on teams with hired coaches should receive physical education credit for their participation.

Additionally, the bill addresses the fact that, currently, students receive only one physical education credit for participation on an athletic team even if they play the sport for multiple seasons. This bill would amend that rule so that students could receive one credit per season of participation. However, the bill also anticipates the fear of coaches that many students might join a sport played in both fall and spring seasons, such as rugby, for only the fall season. Coaches worry that students might not have any intention of continuing play in the spring and only participate in order to receive physical education credit. The proposal outlines that individual coaches "reserve the right to change the distribution of a physical education credit over one season to multiple seasons."

Sullivan first presented this bill to the SGA two years ago. While the SGA passed it, no further steps were taken toward ensuring the bill's implementation. Sullivan's sister, Erin '04.5, student co-chair of Community Council and vice president of the SGA, reintroduced the resolution to the SGA.

She explained that since the resolution is now re-endorsed by the SGA, "the SEAC (Student Educational Affairs Committee), the EAC (Educational Affairs Committee) and the faculty will consider the proposal."

Explaining her support of the bill, Erin Sullivan said, "It seems unnecessary that on top of that level of commitment [athletes] still have to fulfill the second P.E. credit by taking courses that are very often less demanding and rigorous than the training and challenges that accompany being a part of a team. I hesitate to place on the same level what an athlete learns on the field to what one learns in, say, massage class."

Erin Sullivan is "confident that students, especially student-athletes, will be excited if a proposal like this is approved by the faculty." First-year and member of the varsity football team, Jason Korbelik, tended to agree with Sullivan. "It would be really awesome if I didn't have to take the time to take a P.E. class. Even in the off-season, football will require a lot from me. Plus, I will be putting in so much effort each season, it seems crazy to me that my efforts would not be viewed as equal to the efforts of students in P.E. classes."

Sophomore and member of the junior varsity field hockey team, Eriko Hashimoto asserts a somewhat different point of view. "The bill makes a lot of sense in allowing club sports to count toward P.E. credit because students are putting in a huge time commitment as well as showing a commitment to athleticism. As for varsity sports, I don't really care if one sport for all four seasons counts as one credit. The whole point of the P.E. requirement is so that students try out different activities. Even if you are an all-star athlete, the college might want you to try something else you aren't as good at. I wouldn't necessarily push for one sport as two credits, but I am not against it, either."

Now that the SGA has approved the bill, its implementation is out of student control. Erin Sullivan explained, "It is hard to gauge how the faculty will feel about a proposal like this. On the other hand, I really don't think the proposal is making any excessive demands. Why bog students down with extraneous requirements that perpetuate the campus culture of stress and never having enough time in the day?"

Late-night Melodies

Schuyler Van Horn
Serenading museum-goers, *The Hibernators played during Thursday's Museum Unplugged at Rehearsal's Cafe.*

Reported Sex Offenses on the Rise

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

more likely that the survivor of the assault will blame themselves and less likely that they will report the incident."

Brookbank explained how a woman's abililty to report a sexual assault comes from the knowledge that she is not alone, and that there is an aware, supportive community around her that will take the incident seriously.

"The feeling and knowledge that Middlebury is a supportive community for survivors has been growing over the last couple years due to efforts by groups and individuals to increase awareness," said Brookbank in reference to a resurgence of community discussion about sexual assault that started two years ago.

At the end of spring term 2002, a "study group" pioneered by Dean of Student Affairs Ann Hanson met to review the College's standing sexual assault policy. The group brought together representatives from the student body, the Department of Public Safety, the Office of Health and Wellness Education, Parton Health Center and the commons offices to address numerous concerns posted and published community-wide. One poster even accused the College of "silencing" survivors' voices.

Assistant Director of Counseling and Human Relations Virginia Logan recalled that the Sexual Assault Policy Working Group (SAPWG) emerged because a comfortable climate for reporting offenses had not existed despite increasing

> Raising awareness about sexual assault has always been a top priority for FAM, and it will remain one. —Elizabeth Brookbank '04, FAM president

community discussions about related issues. SAPWG met regularly last fall to address different aspects of the problem at hand. One group changed Handbook language, one dealt with the judicial situation and another addressed anonymous reporting. This fall, Hanson brought the discussion to the table at Community Council, which passed several recommendations last week. The issue of anonymous reporting still remains unresolved.

"I believe that the continued discussions in the community about the underreporting and the work of the Sexual Assault Policy Work Group helped to encourage people to make reports," commented Lisa Boudah, director of Public Safety and associate dean of Student Affairs.

For as long as Brookbank has been a member of FAM, sexual assault has constantly been on the group's agenda, whether it was through posters, speakers, Take Back the Night events or other initiatives. "Raising awareness about sexual assault has always been a top priority for FAM, and it will remain one," Brookbank stated.

According to Dr. Mark Peluso, medical director and team physician at Parton Health Center, two nurse practitioners and one nurse are currently participating in Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) training which will enable the Health Center to assess and treat sexual assault victims. In the past, students had to be referred to the Porter Hospital Emergency Room for assessment. "With this training and some equipment, we will be able to offer qualified assessments in both locations, giving victims more choice," said Peluso.

"Our job at the Health Center is to provide compassionate care while respecting our patients' confidentiality. While we offer assistance and support with reporting, in the end it is the patient's choice that matters," said Peluso.

The numbers do not lie. Members of the Middlebury community are reporting sex offenses. It is still unclear whether there has been an actual rise in sexual assaults on campus. Hanley claimed it would impossible to know for sure unless a scientific confidential survey was administered. "We have a refrigerator full of Jane Doe cases," he commented, citing anonymous victims who fail to follow through with investigations despite a recent push for education on assault. Logan had similar sentiments, conjecturing that the whole process, stimulated by an increased concern and a change in policy, has made many more people aware of these issues by working together for proactive change. "If people report more, there may be more the College can change to make a difference," she said.

ON THE FLY

Vlad Lodoaba

Casting his fly lure, *Daniel Smarg '05 enjoys an afternoon in the outdoors.*

COLLEGESHORTS

By Joshua Carson

Prospective BU President Steps Down with $1.8 Million

One day before he was scheduled to assume the job of president of Boston University, Daniel S. Goldin, the former NASA administrator walked away from the commitment with $1.8 million. Goldin had been heard on campus threatening to "sweep the place clean" by dismissing longtime deans, faculty and administrators. After an emergency meeting, the University's trustees agreed that they did not need or want a radical restructuring and offered Goldin the sum for forfeiting the presidency. Those involved in the search process for the new president were not surprised at Goldin's comments as he had spoken candidly during extensive interviews that if awarded the job, he alone would run the university. Members of the search committee made their concerns known to the Board of Trustees, yet Goldin was still offered a $750,000-a-year contract plus perquisites and benefits, in addition to the ability to take extended vacations to Malibu where he and his wife are building a house. "It's Boston University," said trustee Terry Andeas. "We do a lot of stuff in Boston. Long vacations in California are not part of our day-to-day activities." Until a new president is selected, the board named Dr. Avam V. Chobanian, dean of the Medical School, as interim president.

Source: *The New York Times*

Anti-Gay Protests Heighten Tensions at UNH Consecration

As Rev. V. Gene Robinson prepared to become the first openly gay Episcopalian Bishop, Fred Phelps of the Westboro Baptist Church in Topeka, Kan., submitted a request to the Durham Police department for permission to protest the ceremony being held at the University of New Hampshire. Phelps also organized a protest at the funeral service of Matthew Shepard, the University of Wyoming student killed in 1998 because he was a homosexual. The University community, forced to allow the protest because it will occur on public property, urged people to ignore the protestors and not to engage them. Local law enforcement officials feared that Phelps was looking to pick a fight, as he has brought suit against individuals who react violently to his protests in the past. President of the University Ann Weaver-Hart addressed the concerns of the GLBT community supporting the consecration, saying, "As a public institution, we are carefully constructed for safety, and we must give all groups the opportunity to speak." The UNH Police Department was on hand to ensure that opposing groups did not clash and designated specific "pro" and "con" areas, which were heavily monitored by police. The UNH Alliance has organized a pro-Robinson campaign on campus by printing and distribution 500 blue T-shirts that say, "Gay? Fine by me." Co-president of the Alliance, Dave Merry, promised that their "goal is to be a visible but quiet force. No signs, no chants. We will just be there. There is a fear that we're mobilizing with rocks, but we're not. We're mobilizing with T-shirts."

Source: *The New Hampshire Online*

Foreign Students Shy away from U.S. Schools

The increased difficulty and delays in obtaining a student visa has forced many international students to shy away from attending American universities, suggests a new study which shows that the number of foreign students enrolling in U.S. colleges increased by less than 1 percent in 2002-2003. This is the smallest increase in seven years and has resulted in an increase enrollment in British and Australian schools. The Institute of International Education (IIE), which conducted the study, concluded that not only a change in policy affected the enrollment numbers but also a negative perception of the difficulty in obtaining a visa. "The word of mouth is out in certain countries about the difficulty getting a visa. And the perception is having as much of a impact as the delays," said Peggy Blumenthal of IIE. Foreign students began experiencing delays following Sept. 11, 2001, and also as the new homeland security policies were implemented requiring them to report a change of address, academic major and other factors that may influence their visa status. The decline in student enrollment in U.S. colleges has been matched with a marked increase at British and Australian institutions. The number of Chinese students studying in Britain increased 36 percent this year. The same increase holds true for Australian institutions. U.S. schools want foreign students both for revenue contributing $12 billion annually and for their contributions in academic research. Students from Asia, the Middle East and Africa have experienced the greatest delays.

Source: *The Associated Press*

Student Anxiety Escalates as BannerWeb Windows Open

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

several advantages for both students and faculty over MARS. In Banner, students are now able to see their transcript including grade point average, check to see if an instructor has granted a course approval or issued a registration override and see a visual image of their daily schedule. Faculty can see their class lists, view students on waiting lists for their courses, issue overrides to students and view their teaching schedule.

"The biggest benefit for students," said Weiss, "is knowing immediately if they have gotten into the courses they want or need."

Computer consultants at Information Technology Services (ITS) have already fielded many questions and complaints, with the majority of problems pertaining to login procedures. "A lot of people are getting locked out of the system," said Adelina Voutchkova '04. There is a five time limit for entering ones' PIN number and if people do not know what to enter, the system will deny the student access after a point. Also, problems arise if students enter their identification (ID) number incorrectly. For students with a six digit ID number they have to enter two zeros first so as to provide the eight-digit number that the system requires. Christopher Loeffler '04 said this was because "The College wants every student who ever attended Middlebury to have a distinct ID number. The next entering class will have an eight-digit identification number."

Both Voutchkova and Loeffler agree that many of the problems they have addressed could be solved if students read the instructions more carefully, as the login page describes the correct procedure. "In the future [BannerWeb] will be a program that will be much easier to use," said Loeffler. "Now, however, we're in a transition period that we have to weather."

Extra services will be provided during the registration period however. "ITS will be open 24 hours," said Voutchkova. "We'll offer extra assistance, especially

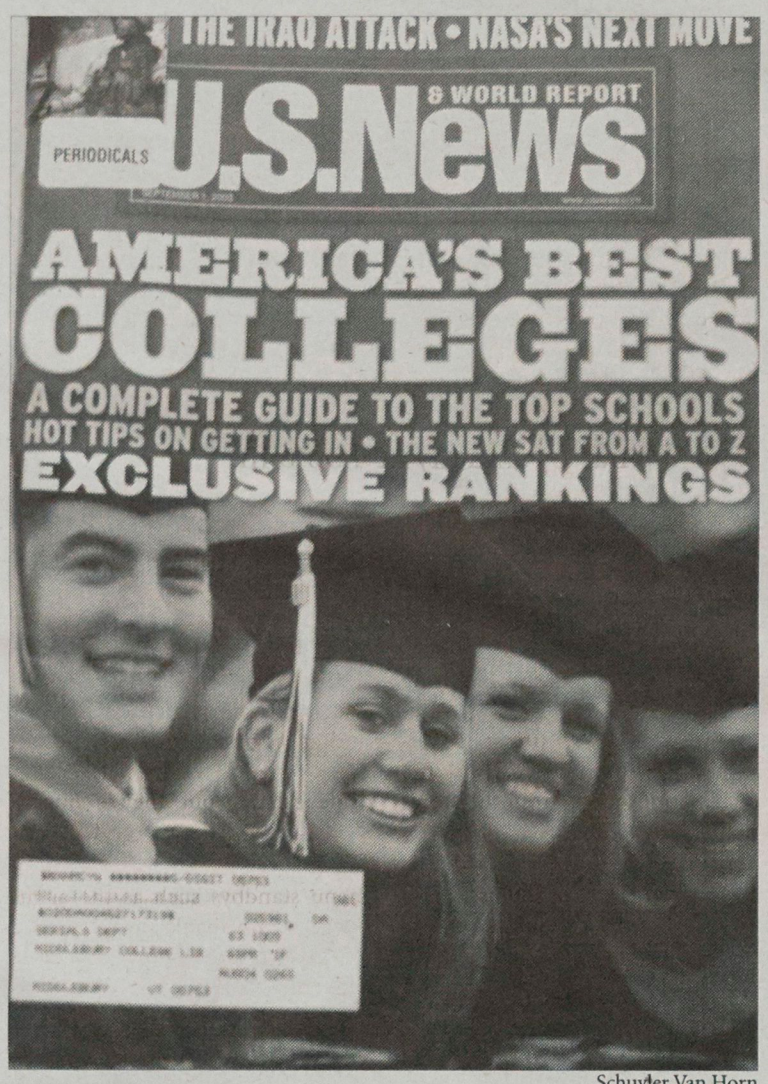
College Rankings: To Care or Not to Care?

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

"There is something inherently attractive about trying to rate schools based on their selectivity," writes Don Peck, director of *The Atlantic*'s editorial-research staff, conceding, however, that a student should not pick Harvard (fifth on the list) over a less selective college just because it is harder to get into.

Even comparing schools based on their "selectivity" is not a foolproof method, according to Hanson. "Selectivity can be measured in different ways," he said. "The numbers can be played with." *The Atlantic* based its findings on admission rates, SAT percentiles and high school class standings for the Class of 2006. Since Middlebury does not require applicants to submit SAT scores, the statistics are automatically distorted. This is also a perennial complaint about *U.S. News*' methodology.

Perhaps the most innovative rankings to be published in recent months is *Outside* magazine's feature on colleges "with top-notch academic credentials, a healthy environmental ethos and an A+ sense of adventure." The College on the Hill and the adjacent town of Middlebury clinched third place, beating out Dartmouth and the University of Vermont. The College garnered "extra credit" points for the annual Feb "ski down" graduation ceremony at the Snow Bowl.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EXCLUSIVE RANKINGS

Schuyler Van Horn

U.S. News & World Report has paved the way for other publications to institute their own particular brand of college rankings.

Useful to whom?

"Admissions notices the fact that people arrive on campus with copies of *U.S. News* clutched in their hands," said Benoit, "so it's important we show up well."

It has always been McCardell's philosophy that if the rankings exist, it is better that Middlebury appear on the lists than not. "I know the public pays attention to these rankings, and so we must also," he said. "But in fact, what is the real difference between fifth and sixth place?"

Hanson said the admissions office "doesn't pay much attention" to the rankings. "If Middlebury is in the top 10, that's meaningful," he commented. He confirmed his skepticism of the tight rankings — schools jockeying to climb one or two spots in the rankings. "They're all the same schools as they were the year before."

Regardless of perceived methodological weaknesses and recent market saturation, these magazines sell. But who is buying them?

Prospective students' parents "tend to put more value in where an institution that their child is considering falls in the rankings," Benoit maintained.

Current Middlebury students concur. Trista McGetrick '06 said her mother had "all the magazines." While she conceded that the rankings influenced which colleges she "looked into," she said they did not ultimately affect her decision to come to Middlebury.

Duncan Cooper '06 said magazine rankings played a smaller role in his college search than in his parents' effort to find the perfect college for him. "They were interested in me going to one of the top ranked schools," he explained. "For me, it was about the feel of the school."

Regardless of who ends up using the information contained within special college ranking magazine issues, one thing is clear. They generate revenue — maybe as much as, if not more than, publications that label Ashton Kutcher the year's sexiest bachelor and slap his face on the cover.

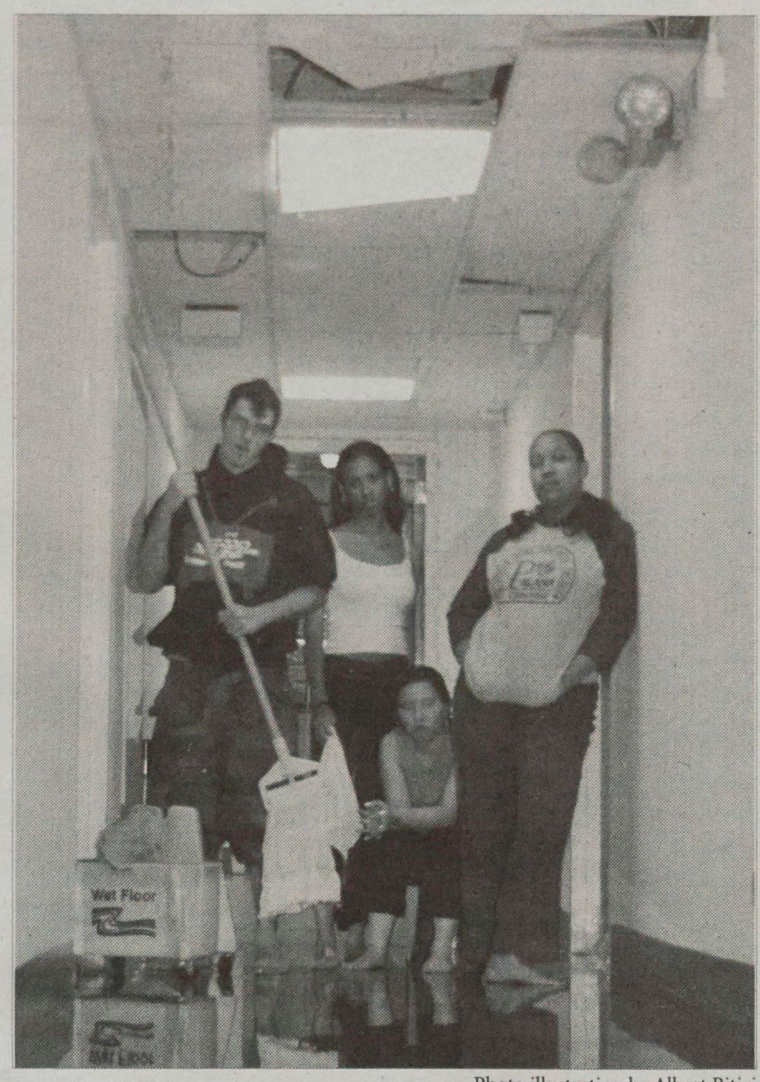

Photo illustration by Albert Bitici

PALANA residents show off the flood damage in Carr Hall's basement.

Carr Hall Dries Out

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Halloween party would take place in Forest basement, but at 6 p.m. on Friday night event organizers decided that improved conditions in the basement of Carr Hall would permit them to move the party back to its original location. DMC vice president Edwin Semidey '06 noted that the party was well attended despite confusion about the location.

While the flood did not damage any technical equipment, Director of Telephone Services Peggy Fischel said that a vital section of the College's telephone and computer network system are continuously at risk due to the current facilities conditions in Carr Hall. "Though we have a distributed telephone system with 11 locations around our campus, downtown Middlebury and Bread Loaf, Carr Hall houses the brain of the system and damage to that piece of equipment would cause a system outage," said Fischel.

Water sensors currently located on the floor of the technical rooms in Carr Hall notify designated individuals in the department of Information and Technology Services (ITS) in the event of a water intrusion, but no drainage system is currently in place. Fischel said that Facilities Management is currently considering how to address the poor drainage problems that caused the flood.

Fischer expressed frustration that the basement space — which was just made available to PALANA residents in mid-October — is plagued with severe facilities problems with no imminent solution. "When I asked what's going to happen," said Fischer, "they said they will continue to monitor it."

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PUBLIC SAFETY LOG

DATE	TIME	INCIDENT	CATEGORY	LOCATION	DISPOSITION
10/23/03	unknown	Theft	Bike	Outside	Open
10/25/03	afternoon	Theft	Bike	Outside	Open
10/25/03	unknown	Theft	Bike	Outside	Open
10/26/03	unknown	Theft	Bike	Outside	Open
10/26/03	5:00 p.m.	Theft	Bike	Middlebury College Campus	Open
10/26/03	11:00 p.m.	Theft	Bicycle	Outside	Open
10/29/03	unknown	Theft	Back Pack	Forest	No Suspects, Some Property Recovered
10/29/03	4:30 p.m.	Theft	Bike	Outside	Open
10/29/03	10:35 p.m.	Driving Offense	Driving to Endanger	Hillcrest Road	Referred to Commons Dean
10/30/03	6:00 p.m. - 2:30 a.m.	Theft	Car Stereo and CDs	I Lot	Referred to MPD
10/31/03	10:55 p.m.	Noise Complaint	Other	Hadley	Referred to Commons Dean
11/1/03	2:50 p.m.	Driving Offense	Driving to Endanger	Stewart Hall	Referred to Commons Dean
11/1/03	9:35 p.m.	Unlawful Mischief	N/A	Hepburn	Referred to Commons Dean
11/1/03	2:15 p.m.	Theft	Oven Rack	Battell	Referred to Commons Dean
11/2/03	11:07 p.m.	Theft	Fire Extinguisher	McCullough Student Center	Open
11/2/03	10:10 p.m.	Drug Violation	Marijuana	Hepburn	Referred to Commons Dean

Home in the Green Mountains

By Megan Michelson
Staff Writer

"Going back to Somalia would be to plunge back into the flames. Going to America is a dream. It is the choice between the fire and paradise," says Abdullahi Ali Ahmed in the magazine *Refugees*, published by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. Ahmed is one of 12,000 Somali Bantu-speaking refugees who the U.S. State Department has agreed to place within resettlement programs throughout the United States during the next two years. Around 200 refugees plan to relocate to Vermont with the assistance of the largest resettlement organization in the state, the Vermont Refugee Resettlement Program.

Most Bantu-speaking tribes in Somalia were brought to the East African country as slaves in the 1700s and have suffered as persecuted minorities for centuries. During the civil war in Somalia, which has lasted through the past decade, they have been living in refugee camps along the dangerous Somali-Kenyan border. In 2000, the United States agreed to help them find safer homes.

This is the first time that there has been a resettlement of an entire ethnicity — the 12,000 expected refugees comprise 100 percent of Bantu-speaking Somalis. After strict security and physical examinations, as well as literacy and English language courses and an in-depth cultural orientation, thousands of refugees are currently being resettled in up to 50 towns and cities throughout the United States.

"We are all illiterate, but we will learn," says 40-year-old refugee Mohammad Yarow in a *Refugees* magazine interview. "I will do anything. I will live wherever they put us. We will eat what you eat. We are very adaptable. In a few months, we will fit in to any new life. Our ancestors had to change from being Bantu to being Somali. We can do it again."

The Vermont Refugee Resettlement Program seeks to ease the transition to life in America, assisting in everything from job placement to finding housing and providing foreign language interpreters. Since last spring, three Somali Bantu families have immigrated to Vermont, and one more family is expected in the next month. The 19 individuals are currently living in Winooski — a Burlington suburb that accommodates the families due to its low cost housing and active public transportation system.

"The families started out staying with host families for several weeks, and now they all have their own apartments. Most of the adults have found jobs, working in warehouses, hotels or restaurants, and several are still looking for employment," said Stacie Blake, the director of the Refugee Resettlement Program. The program has already approved the arrival of 60 refugees, but many are still detained by immigration and security regulations in African refugee camps. "The delay is a result of a combination of factors and problems within the camps, but the State Department has assured us that the glitches have been worked out. We should see the arrival of the rest of the Somali Bantu soon," said Blake.

According to Blake, the resettlement of the first group of Somali Bantu has been extremely successful. "The Winooski and Burlington communities have been very welcoming. The schools have done everything they can to make the refugee students feel comfortable. The city management threw a welcome party for them, and the [local] police have come by to say hello," she explained. "We could not ask for a better start."

There is, however, a degree of negative reaction to the influx of refugees in a state already inundated with its own financial and social problems. Some Vermonters argue that state facilities and funds will be depleted by foreign refugees, when they are needed for native residents. "It's important for us as a nation to be compassionate, but school budgets are going down. If we are having trouble educating the students we've got, the refugees place too much of a burden on the community," said Burlington resident Beth Cornwell-Friese in an interview with the *Burlington Free Press*. But the positive support remains ever present. "As the director of the program, on occasion I get a call that is pretty hateful. But at the same time, I have over 100 volunteers willing to help support the new families," said Blake.

Nikki Holland '04 has experienced the community support behind the refugees firsthand. She began working as an intern at the Vermont Refugee Resettlement Program this semester. Originally her main task was to find jobs for the refugees — helping with applications and assisting with interviews and job etiquette. Now, however, Holland has been assigned to help a specific Congolese family who has recently resettled in the Burlington area. She serves as their French translator and helps them do everything from buying groceries and winter clothes to setting up bank accounts and fixing kitchen appliances.

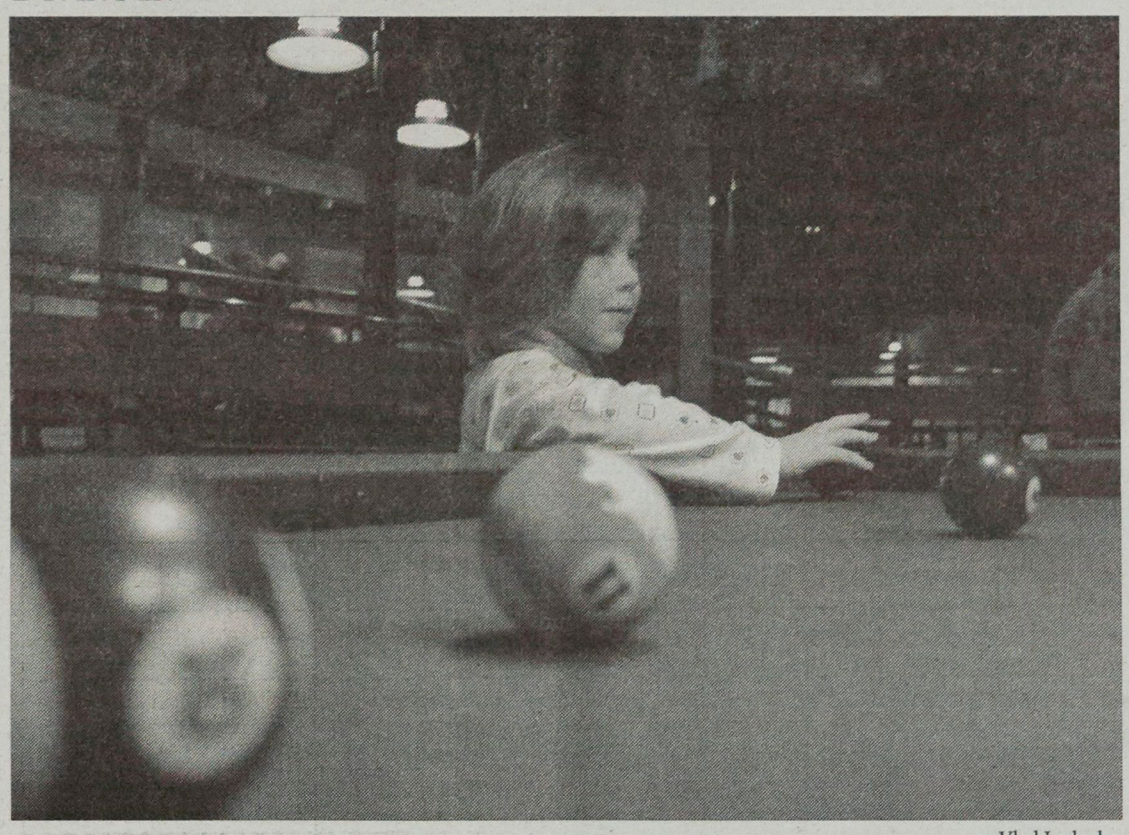
She has been overwhelmed by the positive support from people in the area. "We were in the grocery store and an old Vermont farmer sat next to the Congolese mother on a bench outside. They proceeded to have a conversation with each other — her speaking French and him speaking English. Neither of them seemed to notice they weren't speaking the same language. The father of the Congolese family came over and shook the man's hand. It was an incredible sight," said Holland.

As an African Studies major, Holland appreciates having the chance to apply what she's learning to actual personal interaction. "I'm finally working with people, not working with paperwork," she said. "It's nice to put real people and faces onto an issue that is important to me and important to the United States."

For the Somali Bantu, as well as the other refugees from all over the world with whom the Resettlement Program works closely, the transition to life in America, and specifically life in Vermont, is not easy. "For the African refugees, the weather in Vermont is obviously questionable. But people adapt. It may not be the most pleasant initially, but it's certainly a better environment than where they have come from," said Holland.

In fact, Vermont has a history of welcoming outsiders. In the past, large groups of Sudanese, Congolese, Albanian and Bosnian immigrants have successfully resettled in the Vermont communities. "Vermont is a liberal state and has been really receptive to refugee immigrants. From what I have seen, most people are not only willing to give and provide families with what they need, but they have also been interested in learning from them and seeing how the immigrants' experiences can benefit the local communities," Holland said.

Diving In



Vlad Lodoaba

After watching the women's soccer match last Saturday, *Dorset, Vt., resident Regan Sonderman slides balls across a pool table in The Grille.*

The Local Flavor

by Andrea M. LaRocca

Schuyler Van Horn

- Restaurant: The Bobcat Café
- Location: 5 Main Street, Bristol
- Hours: Sun.-Thurs., 5 p.m.-9:30 p.m.
  Fri. and Sat., 5 p.m. -10 p.m.
  Bar open daily at 4:30 p.m.
- Features: Daily specials, local and organic products, take-out, full-service bar with pub fare
- Reservations: Strongly recommended

Just as its name implies, the Bobcat Café is a restaurant that marries Vermont's rustic personality with its refined palate. It boasts a casual atmosphere, from the storefront entrance to the wood-backed booths and long family-style tables, but there are hints of sophistication throughout the restaurant — the walls are decorated with photographs that could belong in National Geographic, and the quality of the food is Fifth Avenue-worthy. Overall, there is an immediate sense of rustic refinement, calling to mind a more intimate and slightly more upscale version of Fire and Ice.

I visited the Bobcat Café with my family on a Friday night — something that I will never do again. The small restaurant was packed with people, creating an almost claustrophobic atmosphere that persisted throughout the night. Since we had reservations, we were seated immediately (if you go on a weekend night and you don't have reservations, you will wait anywhere from half an hour to two hours for a table).

The prompt service stopped there, however. Our waitress was professional and pleasant, but the kitchen was so busy that, despite having ordered our entreés around 7 p.m., we did not receive them until 9 p.m. This would be fine if you are looking for a long, leisurely dinner experience, but if you have limited time or limited patience, then steer clear of Bobcat Café on a weekend night.

The downtime did, however, give me a chance to investigate the menu, which reflects the café's refined rusticity. The menu is only two pages long, but it offers a wide range of foods at reasonable prices. Unlike its gourmet contemporaries such as Starry Night Café, the Bobcat Café has something that will appeal to everyone, even your picky boyfriend who will only eat hamburgers.

The menu starts off with a selection of hot and cold appetizers, which include French onion soup and an assortment of organic salads (warning: they're labeled as "side salads," but they're huge!). Prices for appetizers range from $3 to $8.50. As for entrees, American menu standbys such as the angus burger, lamb shanks, and NY strip steak are revamped to incorporate different spices and sides such as the Bobcat garlic mashed potatoes (which I highly recommend) or sweet potato fries, to name a few. There are also several true Vermont-inspired dishes that feature organic and local products, such as the pumpkin-sage ravioli with spinach, caramelized apples, and cider cream sauce and Laplatte River Farms beef and bean chili with melted Cabot cheddar cheese. Each entrée plate is $8 to $18.

In addition, the Bobcat Café has a full service bar that offers typical pub fare such as potato skins and nachos. The bar also offers a sampling of Bobcat's own beers that are brewed in the back of the restaurant and are only available in house. Finally, after a night of wining and dining, the Bobcat has a dessert menu with standout items such as the apple, pear and raspberry crisp and the peanut butter cake, my personal favorite. All desserts are $5.50.

Overall, the food at the Bobcat Café was good and often original. Most importantly, the menu struck a balance between everyday appeal and gourmet flavor. One meal (drink, appetizer, dinner, dessert) will cost about $30, but that's a steal for the quality and the amount of the food that you get. The slow service detracted from the dining experience, however, so I would suggest visiting the Bobcat Café on a weekday night, perhaps the first Wednesday of the month when they feature live music from 9 p.m. to 11 p.m. Otherwise, you might just become hungry enough to try to eat one of the stuffed bobcat decorations.

Rural Realities

By Crystal Belle

In a nutshell, Middlebury College has an aesthetically appealing campus — meticulously manicured grass, dorm buildings that resemble castles, and luxury SUVs lined up on College Street. We also have a reputation of being one of the wealthiest liberal arts colleges, as affluent alumni are sure to donate healthy portions of their six-figure salaries. With that said, I want to direct your attention to a not-so-beautiful and not-so-wealthy aspect of the Middlebury campus — PALANA house, a.k.a. Carr Hall. For those of you who are in the dark, PALANA is the multicultural house (Pan-African Latino Native American House) located in Public Safety's old stomping ground, Carr Hall.

What is the purpose of having a having a house like PALANA? The significance of the house is to promote and support diversity on campus, which is also the rationale for its new and improved central location. Students of multicultural and diverse backgrounds, as well as non-ethnic students, live together in the house, which creates an environment where one can indulge in complete cultural exchange. In rural and often homogenous Vermont, this opportunity is crucial.

Unfortunately, PALANA has been experiencing some technical difficulties as a result of its new and improved location. Cracked ceilings, chipped paint and flooding whenever it rains or snows are only a few of the facility woes. Students are frustrated because they thought that the new Carr Hall location would be comparable to PALANA's old home in Fletcher House. Such is not the case, even though the Health Center and Public Safety headquarters were beautifully relocated without a scratch. Why was PALANA placed on hold, while other projects received immediate assistance? It is a question that both students and faculty must ask themselves.

Last week, PALANA had a Halloween party, which was planned months in advance. Unfortunately, it rained during the week and flooded the PALANA basement. The party, which was planned for both students, faculty and community members, had to be suddenly relocated to Forest basement. Although the event could have been catastrophic, PALANA house members pulled together and had an amazing party. However, the point is that as residents of the diversity house, students should receive the same recognition as those who live in other academic houses like the environmental house or language houses. Living on a multi-million dollar campus should at least assure students the right to freshly painted walls, and mildew-free lounges.

Your sympathy for PALANA residents is not what I expect you to get from this. Instead, think of other students on this campus who have no idea that Middlebury even has a diversity house. Educate them. Tell them about what you read, and why we need to come together as a student body and as a college community to make sure that PALANA pulls together soon. Let us as students show everyone that Middlebury College is more than just a pretty face. We are a community, leaning on each other to create a replica of how we would like the world to be.

Courtesy of John Pettitt / DeanForAmerica.com

Howard Dean continues his innovative approach to campaigning.

Dean Heats Up On the Campaign Trail

By Kate Doorley
Staff Writer

Want a button that says, "Bush Frightens Me!"? Then you should have been one of the first 10,000 people to give $31 or more to former Vermont Gov. Howard Dean's latest fundraising effort. In line with his previous efforts such as "Going to Bat for Dean," this latest fundraising drive set a goal of $310,000 for midnight on Sunday, Nov. 2, in keeping with the spirit of Halloween weekend. Creative fundraising efforts such as these have allowed Dean to remain at the forefront of the pool of Democratic candidates in terms of monies raised and have also increased overall awareness of his campaign.

Many of the Dean campaign initiatives have persisted and grown since the summer. Dean has further expanded his Generation Dean program, adding more and more chapters each week. According to the Generation Dean Web site, there are seven chapters in Vermont alone. Hand in hand with this, Dean has continued his campaign's use of weblog technology to spread the message about his campaign and the issues that are of importance to him and to the voters at large.

The former governor has also continued his cross-country speaking tours in an effort to raise awareness of his campaign efforts. His latest tour, called the "Raise the Roots Tour," took place in early October. Through this tour, Dean visited Washington, D.C., Charleston, S.C., Norman, Okla., Seattle, Wash., Iowa City, Iowa, Madison, Wis., Keene, N.H. and Durham, N.H. over the course of four days in an effort to "engage and empower young Americans."

Along with his speaking tours, Dean has also continued his efforts to raise grassroots awareness of his campaign by encouraging his supporters to continue their meetups on a regular basis and by participating in nationwide conference calls, such as one to Generation Dean chapters before the most recent primary debates in Detroit.

Although Dean's campaign style has stayed relatively the same, he has announced several new programs since the end of the summer. First and foremost is a national program that he is calls, "Welcome Baby," which he modelled after his "Success by Six" program here in Vermont. The "Success by Six" program was started to improve early child care and development, and over the 11 years of its existence, physical and sexual child abuse cases have declined 45 percent. The program Dean proposes for America as a whole would give $200 million in grants to groups that offer home visits to the parents of newborns. At these visits parents would be instructed and informed about proper nutrition, parenting skills and the social services available to them, all in an effort to try to curb child neglect and abuse.

Just as the Dean campaign has been gaining attention from the national media, it has drawn more and more attention to Dean's record here in Vermont. The Vermont archives have been beset by requests to view records from Dean's tenure in state office. However, most of what has been discovered have been positive pieces of information such as the fact that Dean balanced the state budget almost every year he was in office even though Vermont is one of the few states without a balanced budget amendment. That Dean cut state debt and boosted Vermont's credit rating to the highest in New England also reflect positively on his campaign.

At this point in the race, Dean is beginning to attract attention from more traditional Democratic support groups as well. The International Union of Painters and Allied Trades recently endorsed the Governor, and according to the Dean Web site, officials from the AFL-CIO, the largest labor union in America, are expected to endorse Dean's campaign early this week.

Dean remains, for now, the frontrunner in the field of nine Democratic candidates, but there is a long time until next August, when the Democratic Party holds its convention. Therefore, it is still anyone's guess where the Dean campaign will go. If Dean is correct, though, and there are enough people who want "Bush Frightens Me!" buttons, his campaign staff may well have jobs past next August.

A Teacher Reflects

By Andrea M. LaRocca
Local News Editor

Everyone has a favorite teacher — including the United States. In fact, in 2001, Middlebury Union High School (MUHS) history teacher Michelle Forman was America's favorite teacher. In other words, she was elected National Teacher of the Year (NTY), which is the oldest and most prestigious teaching honor in the country. Two years later, Forman is back to teaching at MUHS but is also still reflecting on her time as the 51st NTY.

"Being National Teacher of the Year was the most intensive course in education that I could imagine," said Forman last Thursday at an informal discussion of her NTY term. The event, which took place at Ilsley Public Library, was an opportunity for people to talk to and question Forman about her NTY experiences. Several teachers — ranging from professors to elementary school teachers and from long-retired teachers to teacher education majors — were present. Many were interested in what Forman learned about pedagogy and about education throughout America.

For her part, Forman had answers to all the questions and plenty more to share, including many anecdotal stories and a wealth of knowledge about the NTY program and the current status of education. She began, however, by first explaining how she became the 51st NTY and what the title entails. Forman outlined the NTY program and explained how a teacher of the year is chosen from each state (methods of selection vary by state) and then "compete" against the other 56 states and provinces for the NTY title. Once an NTY is selected, he or she is honored at the White House and then goes on a year long tour throughout the country to give speeches about being NTY and to represent the NTY organization at various schools and organizations.

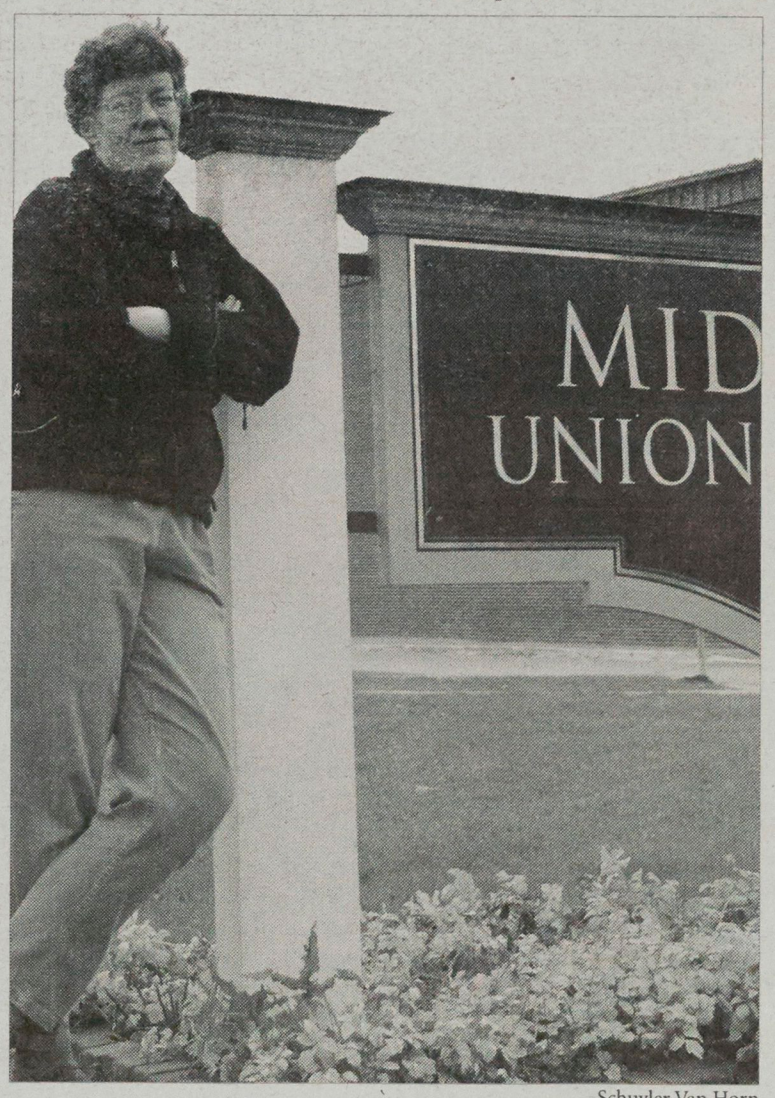
Forman also acted as an educational ambassador to schools in Singapore and Japan for a few weeks, an experience she described as eye-opening for both parties. Forman clarified that the NTY term is indeed a year out of the classroom and that it is a whirlwind tour — she was only home for a few days out of every month of her NTY year.

Despite her hectic schedule, Forman said that she would not trade that year for anything. "Even when I was running around, even when I missed my students, even when I missed my family, I was thankful for every second of the experience." She did, however, mention that she wished she had been able to get into the schools more often during her tour. Forman told several motivational stories of the few schools that she was able to interact with, and expressed that these were some of the best moments of her tour.

The most important lesson that Forman said she learned during her NTY term was simple: "how much people love teachers." She mentioned that nearly everyone has a teacher that impacted his or her life in a positive and unforgettable manner, and as NTY, she said that she was in the best position to witness America's devotion to its teachers. "People, strangers that I didn't even know, would come up to me just because I was NTY and tell me about the amazing teacher that they had in third grade that changed their life. At first it was daunting and then I realized that it just meant that there are amazing teachers out there and that these strangers telling me their story is their way of thanking those teachers."

Forman concluded the discussion by saying that she was glad to be back in the classroom and to be able to apply what she learned during her NTY term. "I emerged intensely optimistic about what I'd seen — I saw amazing schools, amazing teachers, amazing administrators."

That kind of staying enthusiasm from such a dedicated teacher is what gives education its own reason for optimism.



Schuyler Van Horn

Michelle Forman spoke about her experience as National Teacher of the Year at Ilsley Public Library last Thursday.

On a Walk of Faith: Local Group Spirit in Nature Takes a Hike

By Kelsey Rinehart
Staff Writer

"What would you find if you took the rutted dirt road up the mountain?" asks Lynne Howard in an essay entitled "SPiNning." For her part, when she took a left-hand turn on Route 125 East at a small black and white sign, Howard discovered Spirit in Nature (SPiN) at the end of the road.

SPiN is a non-profit organization founded in 1998 by Vermont environmentalists that describes itself as "a place of interconnecting paths where people of diverse spiritual traditions may walk, worship, meet, meditate and promote education and action toward better stewardship of this sacred earth."

Spirit in Nature is a growing organization that now includes over 250 general members. SPiN has a board of trustees, headed by President and local Unitarian Universalist minister Paul Bortz, which includes seniors Leah Koenig, Lila Buckley, Connie Hansen and Kelly Feeney as student trustees. Koenig and a few classmates created a publication that included, she recalled, "essays, photography, artwork and poetry related to humans' spiritual connection to the environment," which SPiN then circulated.

Bortz later asked Koenig to be a liaison to Middlebury's campus. "Spirit in Nature considers itself to be integrally tied to the Middlebury College community and always has student representatives on its committee," Koenig said. She commented that one of SPiN's ongoing goals is simply to spread the word about its outdoor trails and to "develop the relationship between SPiN as an organization and the campus."

Buckley, another student trustee who has been involved with SPiN for three years, echoed similar sentiments about the importance of SPiN on the Middlebury campus. "SPiN helps the school become less insular and interact with the Vermont ommunity. Our work in the environment is crucial in that we bring a message of spiritual interconnectedness and stewardship towards Earth." She also points out the SPiN paths are located on Middlebury College land, and that the group will take advantage of such proximity this year by leading student hikes and nature walks, as part of SPiN objective of drawing more student awareness and involvement in the organization.

SPiN's contacts and path guides hail from many different faith groups, including Christian, Muslim, Hindu, Pagan, Buddhist, Unitarian Universalist, Bahai and Friends (Quaker). SPiN's day-to-day mission is to encourage environmental awareness within the community by way of these traditional religions and to encourage "action based on spiritually-sensitive concern for the environment," as the SPiN Web site states.

SPiN's long-term goals are based on spreading the word on a larger scale. As part of this effort, "Spreading the Seeds" is a workshop that gives Spirit in Nature wheels, offering an example to communities in and around Vermont that are interested in developing a network of paths. SPiN hopes that these types of events will help the idea reach even further, prompting communities across North America to start interfaith environmental organizations and path networks of their own. The organization hopes that this transmission of the SPiN model would empower the religious communities in their response to the current environmental crisis.

Schuyler Van Horn

Spirit in Nature's interfaith trail combines nature with spirituality and religion.

At SPiN, visitors can participate in "Arts and the Environment" activities, which encourage expression of the union between faith and nature. Though visitors may explore on their own, SPiN staff also lead youngsters and other community members on guided walks. Visitors can venture down ten different paths, which are marked with bright strips of nylon. The paths include Christian, Jewish, Islamic, Pagan Sacred Earth and Interfaith walks. At the entrance to each path, a small pedestal greets the traveler, reminding him, "Walking meditation is really to enjoy the walking — walking not in order to arrive, but just to walk."

The organization holds events throughout the year, such as the "Winter Soup and Bread Series," which includes informal lectures and discussions featuring community religious leaders, authors and environmentalists. In the fall, SPiN offers annual courses based on the theme of "Neighborhood and Sustainable Living." Recent topics addressed have been "Sense of Place" and "Voluntary Simplicity," among others. Also in the fall is SPiN's "service action of unique goods and services," which, its Web site says, is an "environmentally sound, non-material way of fundraising" in which service items are tax-free contributions. The auction supports SPiN's environmental stewardship efforts.

Spirit in Nature also bestows an annual Eco-Spirit Award, which "honors outstanding persons of faith who are making a difference to the environment." Past award recipients have included Scholar- in-Residence in Environmental Studies Bill McKibben in 2001 and Stewart Professor of English and Environmental Studies John Elder in 2002.

Along the Unitarian Universalist path is a quotation by Pierre Van Passen, which reads, "Half of our misery and weakness comes from the fact that we have broken with the soil. And that we have allowed the roots that bound us to the earth to rot. We have become detached from the earth. We have abandoned her. And, when we abandon nature, we abandon ourselves."

This statement embodies SPiN's essence, stated on its Web site as a "committ[ment] to experiencing nature and to education". "Ultimately," SPiN states, "we are committed to experiencing nature, and to education."

Act 250: Rethinking and Reform

By Greg Duggan
Staff Writer

One of Vermont's most controversial laws may finally change both for the better and for the worse. Vermont's Land Use and Development Law, known as Act 250, stipulates that developers must follow certain rules when they wish to build new sites in Vermont, from subdivisions to roads to shopping areas. In the near future, parts of this law governing the application and appeals process may change.

The Vermont Environmental Board held two recent deliberations before voting on Oct. 22 to approve several changes in Act 250. The Board has sent the proposed changes to the State Legislative Committee on Administrative Rules, made up of four members from both the House of Representatives and the Senate, who will review, comment on and then either approve or deny the proposed changes.

The Vermont Legislature passed Act 250 in 1970 with the purpose of, as described in the law's brochure, achieving "a balance between economic development and the legitimate interests of citizens, municipalities and state agencies in protecting the environment." Specifically, the Act applies to certain types of development and subdivision plans such as industrial, commercial or government construction on more than 10 acres, the construction of 10 or more housing units, road construction, development executed over 2,500 feet in elevation, and the drilling of oil and gas wells.

To receive permission to build in any of these circumstances, developers must apply to one of nine District Environmental Commissions around the state. Environmental Commissions base their decisions on 10 criteria that deal with the developmental impact on air and water quality, water supplies, traffic, education and municipal services and historic and natural resources. The Environmental Commissions approve most plans, though sometimes after adding conditions which ensure that developers observe the criteria.

Should any appeals be made to the Environmental Commissions' decisions, they then go to the Vermont Environmental Board, also formed under Act 250. Consisting of eight members, plus a chair, the Board oversees Act 250 by ruling on any appeals and creating rules to interpret and administer the Act. Recently, the Board voted 6-1 in favor of the proposed rule changes, with one member abstaining from the vote.

Through the proposed changes, the Environmental Board hopes to streamline the process of granting building permits to developers. Several of the changes have been more controversial than others, and Patricia Moulton Powden, chair of the Board, said, "The most controversial is the proposal to change the party status rules," which limits the type of parties that have the right to file an appeal. If the rule changes are passed by the legislature, materially assisting parties — an individual or group that has information such as commentary or studies and can materially assist the commission in its decision making — will lose their right to appeal, limiting that privilege to individuals or groups directly affected by the development.

Other changes include reducing the time frame, from 30 days to 15, in which a party will be able to file a motion to reconsider a decision. Further simplifying the appeals process, the Board has the ability to narrow the issues on appeal or even dismiss an appeal if no disputes about the facts of the case exist. The final major proposed change gives greater privileges to applicants, allowing them the right to request a pre-hearing conference. Currently, only a Commission or the Board can ask for such a conference.

The Board made the decision to vote for the changes this year after listening to feedback from Vermont citizens. When the changes were proposed a year ago, people from around the state largely objected. After some changes in wording and lots of discussion, popular opinion towards the rule changes became much more balanced, and the Board voted to approve the changes for legislative consideration. The legislative committee is expected to review and comment on the rules by November, and have a final decision by early December. "I rarely speculate on how the legislature will go, but we're obviously hopeful they will approve," said Moulton Powden.

BEYOND THE BUBBLE

Compiled by Andrea LaRocca and Alyssa Thurston

Editor's Pick: It's getting cold out there. Our solution: put on your dancing shoes and go out and heat up the town!

SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING: You know you wanted an excuse to pull out that kilt. Get down Scottish style this Friday from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Cornwall Town Hall. You don't need to bring a partner, but soft shoes are recommended, as is a $2 donation for hall rental. Call 897-2572 for information.

FROG HOP BENEFIT DANCE: Get jiggy with it yet again this Saturday from 6 p.m. to 11 p.m. at a benefit dance for the Frog Hollow Craft Center. This event at the Ripton Community House features music by the Dough Boys Band, a bake sale, door prizes and a silent auction. Tickets are $10 for adults and are available at Frog Hollow, and kids are free. For information call 388-3177.

FAMILY CONTRA & SQUARE DANCE: Discover — or reconnect with — your country side this Saturday at 7 p.m. at the Cornwall Town Hall. If you've never square-danced, have no fear: there's beginner-friendly dance steps for young and old alike. Special features include guest caller Karen Sutherland and music by the band Mud Season. Admission is $4 for adults and children are free. Call 388-7828 for more information.

LEARN TO SPIN: Wool is cool this Thursday at 7 p.m, when the Twist O'Wool Guild holds its annual Learn to Spin night at the American Legion on Wilson Road in Middlebury. Open to all.

The Middlebury Campus

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EDITORIAL

A Resurgence of Apathy?

Instead of the usual patchwork of opinions, this week's facing page carries a call for submissions. That's because we did not receive a single original opinions piece this week — only responses to past coverage in the form of letters to the editor.

The malaise of student apathy has lifted noticeably since Sept. 11, 2001, left its indelible mark on American consciousness. Middlebury students' renewed interest in international affairs guaranteed a steady stream of substantive opinion contributions. The War in Iraq reinforced the trend. And again, the activity on our pages was a reliable barometer of that engagement.

We even published a feature article in the May edition of our magazine *Also* that traced to the rebirth of political activism on campus. Middlebury was in the midst of a renaissance of student awareness. The bubble, it seemed, had burst.

The momentum has now hastened at a time when it is more vital than ever.

Casualties continue to mount in Iraq as the Bush administration struggles to reconstruct a nation in turmoil. The U.S. Senate recently passed a ban on partial-birth abortion. And just this Sunday, Episcopal Church consecrated its first-ever openly gay bishop at the University of New Hampshire's stadium. As the spectators cheered, hate groups clustered outside and church leaders worldwide threatened a schism.

These national and international issues all deserve a place in public discourse. But the College community itself also provides a wellspring of topics on which to espouse an opinion.

Take Winter Term, a staple of the Middlebury academic calendar that must survive a review by a divided faculty if it is to continue. Or the Student Government Association finally filling its Senate. Now that the house is full, senators need their constituents — and that means you — to offer suggestions for initiatives.

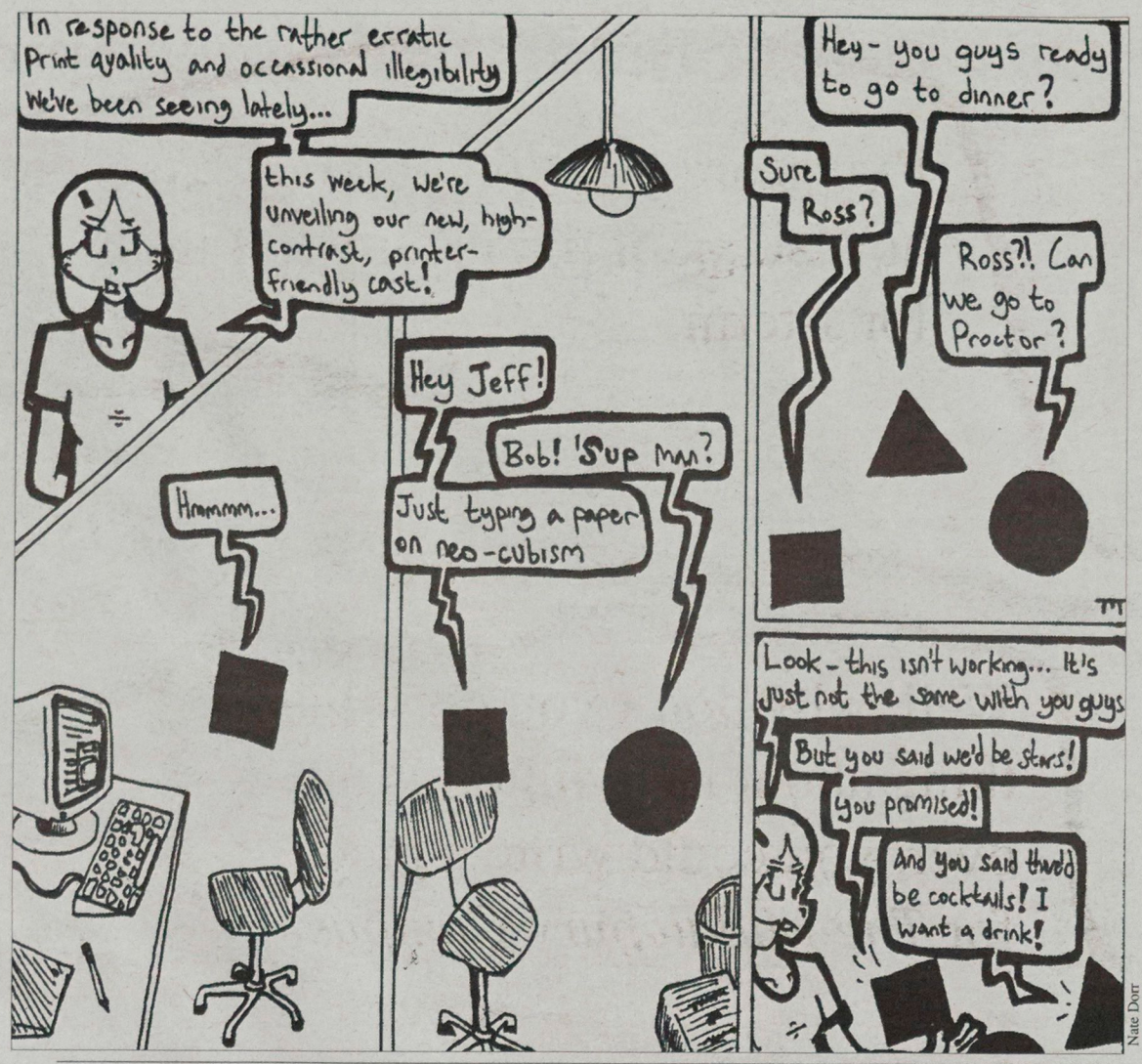
The College's sexual assault policy also underwent a comprehensive review. The Community Council now must settle on the specifics of anonymous reporting, a crucial mechanism to help gather accurate statistics about the pervasiveness of the problem on campus.

The student body must take ownership of the issues and resist a retreat into the proverbial bubble.

The importance of international, national and campus-related events demands it.

OPINIONS SUBMISSION POLICY

The Opinions pages of *The Middlebury Campus* provide a forum for constructive and respectful dialogue on substantive issues. With this in mind, *The Campus* reserves the right to deny publication of all or part of a submission for any reason. This includes, but is not limited to: the making of assertions based on hearsay; the relation of private conversations; the libelous mention of unverifiable events; the use of vulgar language or personal attacks. Any segment of a submitted article that contains any of the aforementioned will be removed before publication. Contributors will be allowed to reference prior articles published in the Opinions section or announcements for the public record. If a reference is made to prior articles, the submission will be considered a letter to the editor. *The Campus* will not accept or print anonymous letters. The opinions expressed by contributors to the Opinions section, as well as reviews, columns, editorial comics and other commentary, are views of the individual contributors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the newspaper. *The Campus* welcomes letters to the editor at 250 words or less, or opinions submissions at 800 words or less. Submit works directly to the Opinions Editor, Drawer 30, campus@middlebury.edu or via the paper's Web site at www.middleburycampus.com. To be considered for publications, submissions must be received by 5 p.m. Tuesday. *The Campus* reserves the right to edit all submissions.


In response to the rather erratic print quality and occassional illegibility we've been seeing lately...
this week, we're unveiling our new, high-contrast, printer-friendly cast!
Hey Jeff!
Bob! 'Sup man?
Just typing a paper on neo-cubism
Hmmmm...
Hey - you guys ready to go to dinner?
Sure
Ross?
Ross?! Can we go to Proctor?
Look - this isn't working... It's just not the same with you guys
But you said we'd be stars!
you promised!
And you said there'd be cocktails! I want a drink!
Nate Dorr

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To the Editor:

In a recent article on Winter Term [Faculty Input Lands Winter Term in Hot Water, Oct. 30] I was interested in the opinion of Professor Monod who "expressed doubt that anything meaningful can be taught in four weeks alone." My daughter had also seriously considered Colorado College, whose entire curriculum is taught in blocks of one course per 3 1/2 weeks.

At Middlebury, where the workload can be so crushing that the outdoor hiking trails exist for many only theoretically, a welcome change of pace in the winter is not just a draw for prospective students, but restorative to the spirit.

Robert Crootof, Parent '04
Norwich, Conn.

To the Editor:

"Show your school pride where it counts!" read the order form. Well, where exactly does it count? According to whoever came up with fantastic idea to sell Middlebury thongs: your vagina. So, branding your genitals is now the cool new way to show your school spirit? Unfortunately, approximately half of the population (a.k.a. men) will be unable to show their pride since the underwear comes designed only for women (they do come in sizes up to XL if men insist on participating). Placed in each mailbox belonging to those with the appropriate sexual organs, the vendor made sure to encourage each (female) individual, for only $8, to "show" that pride. So why is it that I am not jumping at the tasteful opportunity to support my school?

Meg Scott '06
Undeclared
Philadelphia, Penn.

To the Editor:

In the article on the front page referring to Molly Turco and her brother's alleged charges [Senior Faces Assault Charges, Oct. 23], *The Middlebury Campus* regrettably chose to portray the incident, while in actuality Molly's guilt and the behavior of the arresting officer remain very much in question. While this newspaper is not the forum to question the fallibility of the Middlebury Police Department, it is equally inappropriate to condemn Ms. Turco before her own fault in the incident has even been confirmed.

It was equally irresponsible and unnecessary for *The Campus* to reveal the names of Molly and her brother before this incident has been settled legally or otherwise. And one would have hoped that *The Campus* could have exercised a little more discretion in its portrayal considering that Molly is a two-sport varsity athlete, co-president of the Catholic Newman Club and a mentor at three different area schools. Taking into account Molly Turco's character, it is unfortunate that this newspaper could not have run a less one-sided article. All in all this has proven to be a most hurtful incident to Molly Turco and her family and it is extremely disappointing that *The Campus* could not show more discretion or integrity in the way it represents its front page material.

Ted Flanagan '04
American Literature Major
Boxford, Mass.

To the Editor:

I write in reaction to the article [Senior Faces Assault Charges, Oct. 23] published in the *The Middlebury Campus* regarding the charges of Molly Turco and her brother. I am aware that the hype over this incident has subsided. Still, I find myself, among others, to be angry and moreover disappointed in *The Campus* for its choice to publish such degrading and poorly composed material. In a journalistic light, the article represents one side only, that of the Middlebury police. I find it hard to believe that there is enough appeal to the student body to publish this article, let alone on the front page.

The Campus takes pride in its delivery of fair and accurate reporting. However, the article unjustly identifies a student for her alleged crimes and inaccurately recounts these events. A closer read of the affidavits would have altered the sensationalist headline completely. I once had faith that college papers aspired to represent student life and its interests in the most genuine regard. Unfortunately, I have realized that this is nothing more than a false hope. This experience reminds me that newspapers should be read under the pretense that articles record one author's interpretation, and not necessarily the voice of all people. Although not exactly enlightening, this article does make me question if I can trust the media.

Michaela Dietz '04
International Studies Major
Cooperstown, N.Y.

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I've heard you complain about how some of the faculty has it out for J-term.

Yeah, what's your point? A lot of people have an opinion about that.

Well, why don't you do something about it? Midterms are over, you could write a piece for *The Middlebury Campus*.

Great idea, but how do I do that?

Easy, just follow the opinions submission guidelines found on page 10 and send it to the Opinions editors.

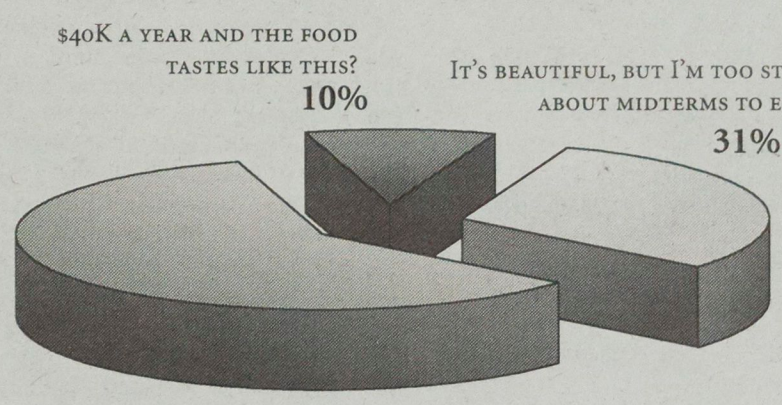
Sounds awesome, can I write on any topic?

As long as it follows the submission policy.

Wow. Thanks a lot.

The Middlebury Campus Online Poll:

How Would You Rate the Quality of Life at Middlebury?

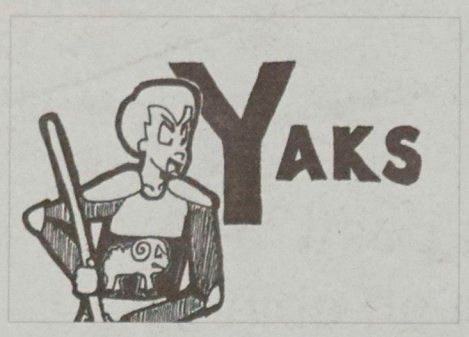

$40K a year and the food tastes like this?
10%
It's beautiful, but I'm too stressed about midterms to enjoy it
31%
We're spoiled rotten, it really is Club Midd
60%

Note: Results based on 84 votes cast between Oct. 29 and Nov. 4 at www.middleburycampus.com

Next Week's Question:
Is J-term academically worthwhile?
Vote online at www.middleburycampus.com

T.I.M.
(This Is Me)

by Tom McCann & Ryan Reese



I don't think you ready for this jelly.
I don't think you ready for this jelly.
I don't think you ready for this.
Cause my body's too bootylicious for ya babe.

That's a song by Destiny's Child. Beyonce Knowles was in that group. We should write a column about her. But we probably won't—because we don't know her. But we do know Tim.

Beyonce probably doesn't play ice hockey. Tim does, but not well.

As a member of the Xi Omega Great White Yaks, Tim has frantically been preparing for its upcoming, inaugural season.

The Yaks, whose mascot was chosen on the basis of its fierce reputation and relative obscurity, will be outfitted in midnight black, the red of freshly drawn blood, and the white of a Florida orange entirely covered in Vermont snow, which is really, really, white.

As a primary founder of the fine Yak organization, Tim was chiefly responsible for the selection of said Yak as the representative animal for a squad that will indubitably be forever etched in the annals of Middlebury Hockey history.

On a roster of 13 'skaters,' two are from countries where ice does not form naturally, one resides in Texas resulting in his ineligibility for the season, and one's only previous skating experience involved the near severance of his ex-girlfriend's third and fourth fingers on her left hand, several months of physical therapy, and permanent partial movement.

When searching for an appropriate adjective to describe the young Yak club, 'not awesome' comes to mind.

Despite this minor deficiency in talent, Tim and his brethren are optimistic about the upcoming season.

While Tim and his team may not score many goals this season, on a personal level, Tim is turning his hopes and dreams into reality every day.

While most might describe their life goals as achieving superstardom in a clutch sporting performance, amassing a fortune in investment banking, finding the cure that one really bad disease, or simply settling down in a house

Symposium Compares Brains and Brawn

By David Barker
Staff Writer

When Gary Margolis '67 was a three-sport athlete at Middlebury College, his coach put it bluntly — "You're either a student or an athlete." Tackling this delicate and sometimes confused balance between athletics and academics provided the theme for the inaugural "Inspiration and Perspiration" symposium last Thursday.

Margolis, now an associate professor of English and director of the Center for Counseling and Human Relations, was joined by Jay Parini, D.E. Axinn Professor of Creative Writing, retired UVM Professor of Biology Bernd Heinrich and Scholar-in-Residence and symposium organizer Bill McKibben. The four men discussed "endurance" in the classroom as well as on the athletic fields.

Award-winning dancer Paul Matteson '00 and members of the College Dance Company performed short pieces to represent the night's theme. Given that there was no music, the stamina required to pull off the dramatic and graceful pieces was communicated to the audience in Dana Auditorium by the dancers' heavy breathing.

"You really knew what hard physical work it was," said McKibben.

Parini stood in contrast to the lithe, swan-like dancers, as he ambled to the podium with the grace of someone getting out of bed.

He began,"I don't look like an athlete and there's a reason for that."

Although he's a regular at noon hoops at Pepin Gym, Parini explained that his endurance is best witnessed at Steve's Park Diner just off Main Street, where he writes poetry every morning.

"I've always admired the steady writer," he commented while discussing the feats of endurance scribes like Balzac and Anthony Trollope. Commenting on the ostensibly maniacal training of Middlebury athletes, Parini said, "Endurance requires love — not just hard work."

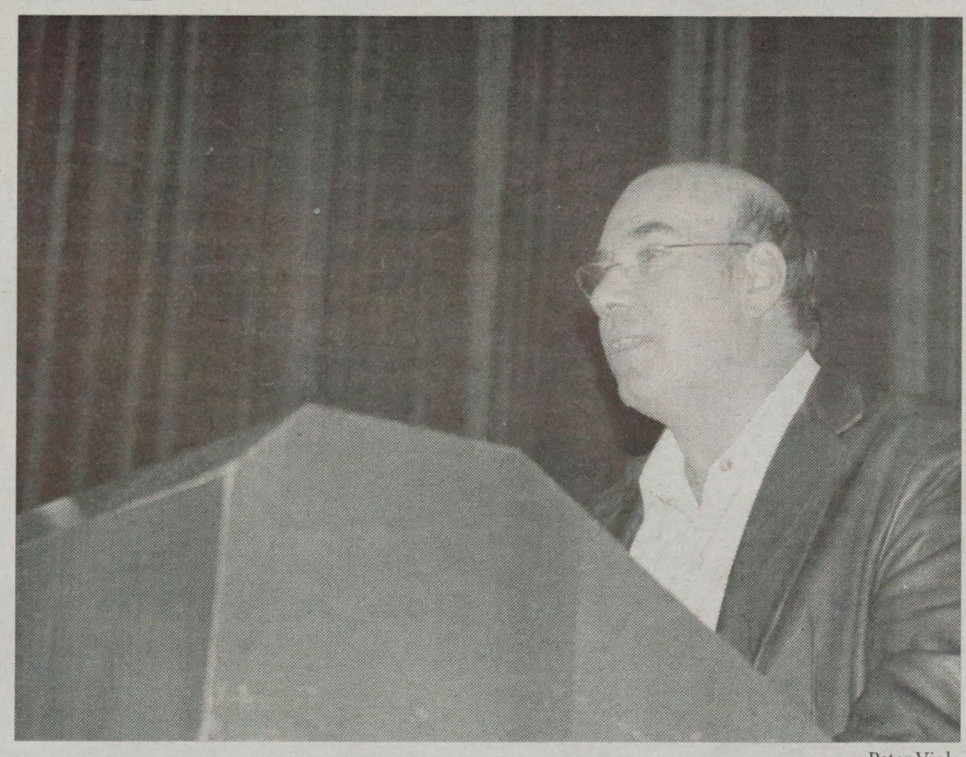
Like Parini, Margolis drew on his experience as a writer to talk about endurance.

His sports poetry has been collected in "American Sports Poems," including a piece on Michael Jordan, which was praised by the retired basketball legend. His reading of poems like "Slow Words for Shoreham and the Apple Blossom Derby" underscored the endurance needed to run the long-standing Shoreham road race.

Practically bounding on stage like an antelope was Heinrich, who has combined his passions for ultra-distance running with writing about endurance physiology and the hunter-gatherer lifestyles of early humans.

"We are descendants of endurance predators," he said. "Before the bow and the spear, our weapon was running." Because of our ability to get rid of heat through sweat glands, Heinrich thinks humans "are made to run."

The audience shifted restlessly in their seats when Heinrich related his jaw-dropping records in the 100-kilometer, 100-mile and 24-hour run. In the span of 24 hours, Heinrich ran 157 miles on a quarter-mile track. "I've always admired him both as a writer and an endurance athlete," said McKibben of Heinrich.



Peter Viola

Jay Parini talked about endurance and the writing life at Thursday's symposium.

> Endurance requires love — not just hard work.
>
> —D.E. Axinn Professor of Creative Writing Jay Parini

The 50 who remained for the screening of "Endurance" were treated to the story of Haile Gebrselassie, the famed Ethiopian distance runner who went from the impoverished Ethiopian grasslands to the medal stand at the 1996 Atlanta Olympics.

Since President John McCardell has been a leader in the effort to define the changing role of Division III athletics, McKibben hopes to have a symposium next year to further the discussion about academics and athletics.

Reflecting on the outcome of last week's symposium, McKibben said, "It was great fun watching people connect."

Stokely Carmichael: At the Center of the Revolution
Author Thelwell Helps Document Activist's Life Achievements

By Karrina Arrue
Staff Writer

Last Thursday, Bicentennial Hall Room 220 was filled to capacity as the audience anxiously waited to hear, "The Origins of Significance of 'Ready for Revolution': the Autobiography of Stokely Carmichael," a lecture by Ekwueme Michael Thelwell, a longtime friend of the revolutionary civil rights activist Kwame Ture (Stokely Carmichael) and collaborator on his autobiography.

Thelwell is a professor of Afro-American Studies at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. He was also a staff member of the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) in the early 1960s and colleague of Carmichael. He is well-known for his writings, including the 1980 novel "The Harder They Come."

Carmichael was the leader of the Non-Violent Action group at Howard University in the early 1960s. In 1966, he was elected chairman of the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) and later became prime minister of the Black Panther Party in Oakland, Calif., He advocated the ideas of "Black Power" and believed in using violence if necessary.

"His life spanned the struggle of a generation in America and Africa," said Thelwell of Carmichael, who also supported the cause of pan-Africanism — the creation of a single African socialist state.

Thelwell recalled telling Carmichael, "You've got to start writing this stuff down ... the struggles you've had. They really ought to be preserved."

Carmichael was diagnosed with prostate cancer in December 1996, and he and Thelwell began writing the autobiography nine months later. He died in Guinea on Nov. 15, 1998, and was only able to revise six chapters.

Thelwell continued to edit and put together the taped narrative which the civil rights activist left behind — an endeavor that took him six years to complete.

"He gave me not only the freedom but the responsibility to take responsibility for the language of the book ... but he [Carmichael] dictated what should have been in the book," said Thellwell.

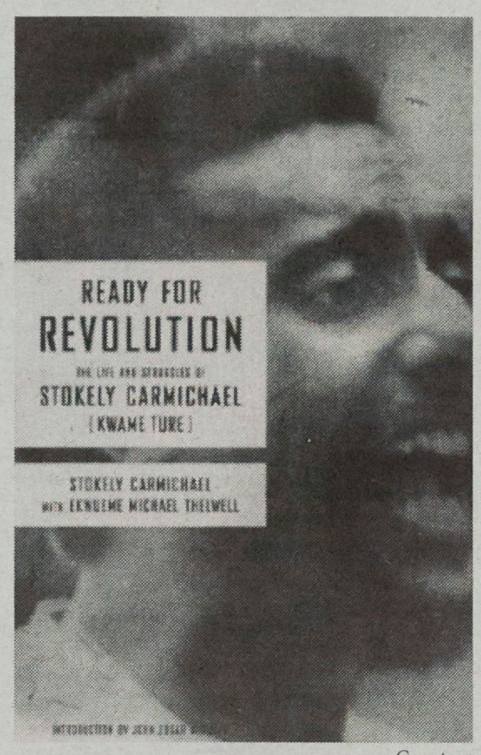
The account, "'Ready for Revolution': The Life and Struggles of Stokely Carmichael," is being released this month on the fifth anniversary of Carmichael's death.

Only calling himself a "disinterested observer," Thelwell remarked, "Since it's not my book I can say that this is the most unusual text I've ever read."

Although Carmichael "didn't have a presence in the white American media," according to Thelwell, "he was loved all across the world." He was "unrepentant, unapologetic and defiant ... in writing his story."

Carmichael wanted his autobiography to "tell the truth, that's all. He wasn't running for office, this is not a campaign autobiography, and he wasn't looking for self justification. His sincerity was palpable and manifest — he truly loved the people."

"'Ready for Revolution' is the latest installment in a grand tradition of the autobiographical, black male narrative," noted Playthell Benjamin in the book's afterword — placing it beside the likes of Fredrick Douglass, W.E.B. Du Bois, Malcom X and others.



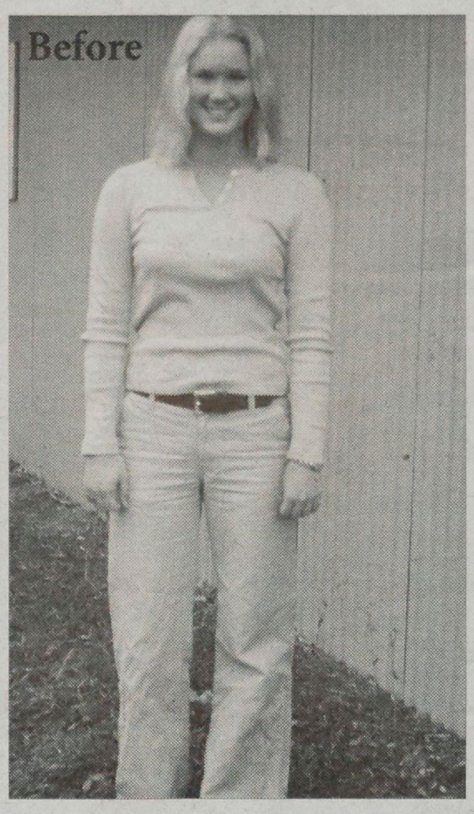
Courtesy

Ekwueme Michael Thelwell, longtime friend of Stokely Carmichael, spoke about the late activist's autobiography last Thursday.

"Everyone should read this book because it significantly revises and rewrites the history of the civil rights movement, and it is probably the most significant book written in the last 10 to 12 years," said Thelwell.

After the lecture, Middlebury College students and faculty were able to purchase the book, which has not been released yet, and have it signed by Thelwell.

Thrift Store Makeover: Steffany Hodge



Each week *The Middlebury Campus* will take one member of the Middlebury College community to a local thrift store to revolutionize the way they look at life, liberty and personal style.

This week's whirlwind makeover (and coincidentally TSM's maiden voyage to Classy Closets Rainbow Collection) claimed the dignity of Steffany Hodge '04.5. Never afraid of getting an adventurous look, Steff prefaced her makeover by saying that she would try on anything — later she realized she was in the hands of certified style sadists. The result was a decadent drift through the most revolting moments of America's couture history.

Steff's makeover, if nothing else, is an homage to yesteryear's cinema and television looks. If you don't see the Mary Tyler Moore in her Mod two-fer, then check out her 'After' look and recall Goldie Hawn's crowning cinematic achievement — *Overboard.*

The right stripes
Blue/black striped prom dress: $7.50

Now it's your turn!

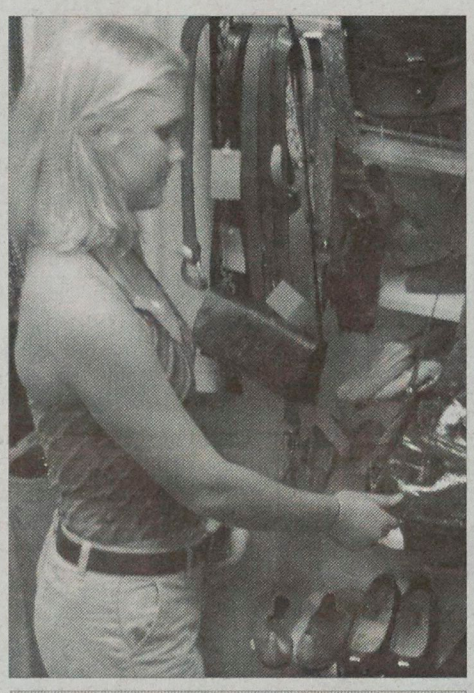
Depressed by your dorm room?

Need a new look?

If you or anyone you know would like to be the next Thrift Store Makeover, contact Lanford at lbeard@middlebury.edu.

Hip Tip of the Week:

Thrifty dress too big? Cinch it with a belt, hide the bulge with a purse.



Hip Tips

Think that pop culture today is fake, fabricated and fraudulent? Investigate a different decades' dos and don'ts each day. Try Mod Monday, Flare-Leg Friday or Thirties Thursday. You may look schizophrenic, but at least you'll be hot.

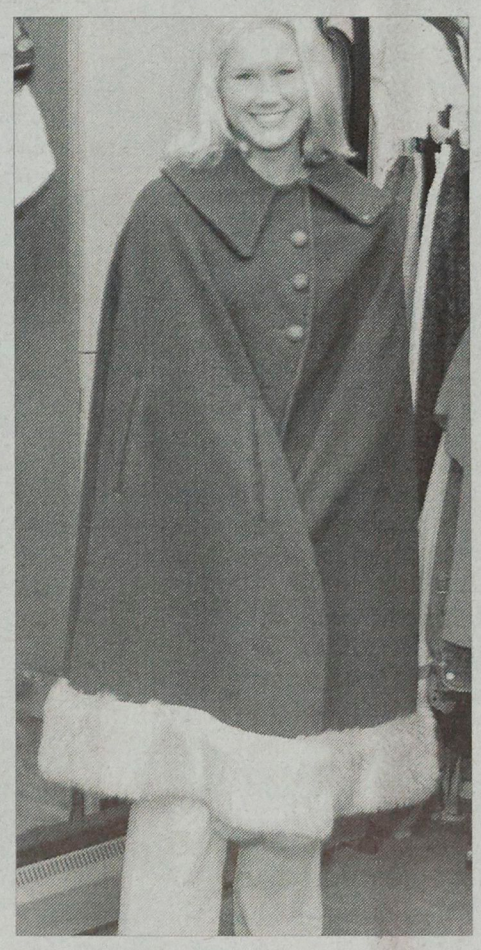
Don't be that kook who lingers in the back of the store. Though it often helps to sift through each and every aisle of your local thrifty, some of the best purchases (read: most fun) are found in the fastest trips. If you see a conversation piece, and you're on the verge of debating whether it really is worth the $1 price tag, drop the debate and buy it. Buyer's remorse doesn't exist at the thrift store.

Maybe you aren't having any luck in the pants and T-shirts sections, but don't forget about outerwear and accessories. Second-hand coats like the one Steff wears on the right are affordable and generally of good quality (versus couture knock-off stores like H&M or Old Navy). Likewise, shoes and underwear may be best bought new, but chunky jewelry, old school wrist-bands and other pieces of vintage flair abound in the uncharted corners of thriftyland.

Photographs by Albert Bitici

Groovy, man...
Geometric dress: Younique, $5
Hat: $2.50

Like way far out.
Checker dress: American Eagle, $5
Shoes: 9&Co., $5



Little Red Riding Hodge
Opera coat: $5

After — *The '80s are BACK!*
Bathing Suit: Mint & Cola, $7.50
Skirt: Express, $7.50; Cover-up: $7.50

Pop Rocks

by Lanford Beard

What do you get when you mix a former NFL cheerleader, Kathy Griffin and 15 walking advertisements for beer goggles?

Hint: It's a reality show, and the title "Mr. Personality" was already taken.

That's right, folks, Monday night marked new highs in dating game lows with "Average Joe."

For the first time since Dave snatched the game from the brainless and beautiful at "Paradise Hotel," television has given some long-awaited face time to persons with less aesthetic gifts.

And to top it off, we've been doubly blessed with the newly constructed mug of Kathy Griffin (you might remember her as the spunky redhead from "Suddenly Susan," or perhaps you remember her as the spunky redhead from "Celebrity Mole").

I don't know about the rest of America, but I hope this one is a keeper. Looking at the show's Web site is like being unleashed in a glitter factory … except the glitter is a ragtag group of unkempt, unpopular fools who are capitalizing on their 13 seconds of fame in hopes of catching the lady of their dreams or just a walk-on role as the guy eating three McDonald's Happy Meals in the next Colin Farrell flick.

Our lucky leading lady is a gem named Melana Scantlin, who, according to NBC's Web site, "was a cheerleader for the Chiefs until she gave that up to focus on her participation in the Miss USA pageant during her senior year."

She's obviously aware of the commitment it takes to look good in a swimsuit and answer the tough questions like "What would you put in a time capsule to represent our time period 200 years from now?"

The real test of Melana's character will be whether she can keep her lunch down while her partner is launching into his rendition of "It's Raining Men" in the show's G-string karaoke finale. (We both know it will come to that so don't even try to pretend otherwise.)

So, I took the liberty of looking through some of the winners that are vying for the heart and soul of Ms. Scantlin, and I'm going to give you a preview:

Craig — Age 26
Occupation: I run a cigar lounge.
Describe yourself: I party like a rock star.
What would people be surprised to know about you? I once used a male enhancement product for three months and saw no results

So, friends, I leave you with these good tidings and joy. I can only hope that somewhere out there on Monday nights I know I am not alone in shamelessly enjoying (okay, I'll be a little ashamed) a "reality show" replete with exploitation.

If nothing else, I can take solace in knowing that my devilish schemes are beginning to work, and, yes — oh yes — someday the ugly shall inherit the earth.

Or, failing that, that the show will be picked up for another season, and I can pack up my things and claim my fame with "Average Jane."

More Than a Difference of Opinion: America's 'War' with France

By Grace Kronenburg
Staff Writer

When, in March of last year, restaurants on Capitol Hill and around the nation renamed French Fries and French Toast "Freedom Fries" and "Freedom Toast," it was clear that French bashing had reached a new level in America.

While little blatant anti-American sentiment existed in France following the Iraqi conflict — no throwing of Coca-Cola in the Seine or renaming of the cheeseburger — it is clear that there is a marked difference between the basic national values in France and the United States.

Name calling aside, it appears that a rift is slowly forming between the perennial allies.

The burgeoning conflict was the subject of Sylvie Kauffmann's Oct. 28 lecture, "Are France and America at War?," in the Robert A. Jones Conference Room.

> We have been kidding ourselves too long about who we are and how we relate to each other.
>
> —Sylvie Kauffmann

Kauffmann, a senior editor at French daily newspaper *Le Monde*, is well-versed in relations between France and the United States. After serving as Washington correspondent from 1993 to 1996, Kauffmann was employed as New York correspondent until 2001 when she returned to Paris.

Of Kauffmann's work, Edward Knox, Middlebury professor of French and moderator of the lecture, said, "I have been consistently impressed by the quality of her reporting on the United States, which has always struck me as evenhanded, insightful and to the point."

Kauffmann opened her talk by referring to an article by Tom Friedman printed in the *New York Times* on Sept. 18 entitled "Our War With France." The article argued that France is not simply a complacent ally, but that it wants America to fail in Iraq. Taken aback by Friedman's article, Kauffmann saw it as indicative of the crisis between the two nations.

She said, "The mere fact that Tom Friedman wrote that article and it was printed in newspapers around the world is in itself significant because it shows how low relations between the two countries have sunk over the past year. Possibly as low as the image of France has sunk in America."

The visible rift between France and the United States began when France refused to support the American campaign against Iraq.

While some pointed to the fact that France and the United States were rivals in the situation, Kauffmann saw an entirely different side of the debate. France's refusal to provide military support was motivated by hesitancy to participate in a war that lacked United Nations' approval and international legitimacy.

Fundamentally, Kauffmann saw France's response as determined not by rivalry but by "confrontation over the criteria of the use of force." The two nations differ over reasons and conditions for waging war — ultimately over underlying national values.

This ever-widening value gap found its beginnings earlier than the Iraqi conflict. While America is consumed with fighting terrorism, France is immersed in the rebuilding of Europe.

Kauffmann pointed to the fact that the French lack understanding of American reasons for war in Iraq and Afghanistan, just as Americans have a very limited conception of the breadth of the effect the formation of the European Union had on France.

Accordingly, Kauffmann sees France as engaged in an identity crisis of sorts.

The adoption of the Euro, reliance on a central bank with the rest of Europe, admittance of 10 new, formerly communist Eastern European States to the European Union and the writing of a common constitution have had a deep impact on France's political and social identity.

Concurrently, France is experiencing an influx of primarily Muslim immigrants, giving rise to a host of problems that challenge many of the country's established ideals regarding religion, secularism in public schools, mode of integration and social structure.

Clearly, France and the United States are faced with markedly different issues.

Kauffmann emphasized the ignorance and mutual lack of understanding of each nation to the unique issues faced by the other as the basis for the growing value gap. Basically, France and America are operating on two very separate value systems.

Kauffmann closed by saying, "We have been kidding ourselves too long about who we are and how we relate to each other. It is time to give up denial and pay more attention to who we are." Both nations, she implied, need to realize their differences in order to address their commonalities and begin to patch the growing rift.

The lecture was well attended by students, faculty and community members alike. Kauffmann answered several questions from audience members after her talk and during the dinner that followed.

Knox commented on Kauffmann's take-home message, saying, "France and America are destined to clash as a result of differing value systems, but it is self-defeating to dwell on what divides us — we need to look instead for commonalities between the two countries."

"Are France and America at War?" was the third in a series of colloquia on French-American Relations.

It follows "Deja Views: How Americans look at France," given in November 2001 and "France in 2003: The Challenge of Change," held last April.

DMC Breaks Down Barriers Within, Reaches Out to Community

By Abigail Mitchell
Staff Writer

"A lot of people are hesitant to join DMC because they feel that being African American is a prerequisite. That is just not the case. DMC hopes to attract members from a variety of races and backgrounds," said Edwin Semidey '06, vice-president of Distinguished Men of Color (DMC).

DMC has been an active organization at Middlebury College for four years, hosting on-campus social events as well as events geared to benefit the larger college community.

This Halloween weekend such an event — the haunted house co-hosted with PALANA — offered 35 eager children from town the chance to explore PALANA house after a Middlebury student set the mood with a spooky tale.

After the children left, college students enjoyed a late-night party with DJs and food in Carr Hall.

> We just want to get together and have a good time. In doing so, we want to break down racial barriers because, when it comes down to it, we're all just people.
>
> —Edwin Semidey '06

DMC has ambitious plans for the future. The organization hopes to put together a literacy program for local students in the community. Members are planning a symposium in the spring, which will feature a performance by a poet involved with "Russell Simmons's DEF Poetry Jam" as well as two local poets. The organization is also working on a show to celebrate Black History Month in February.

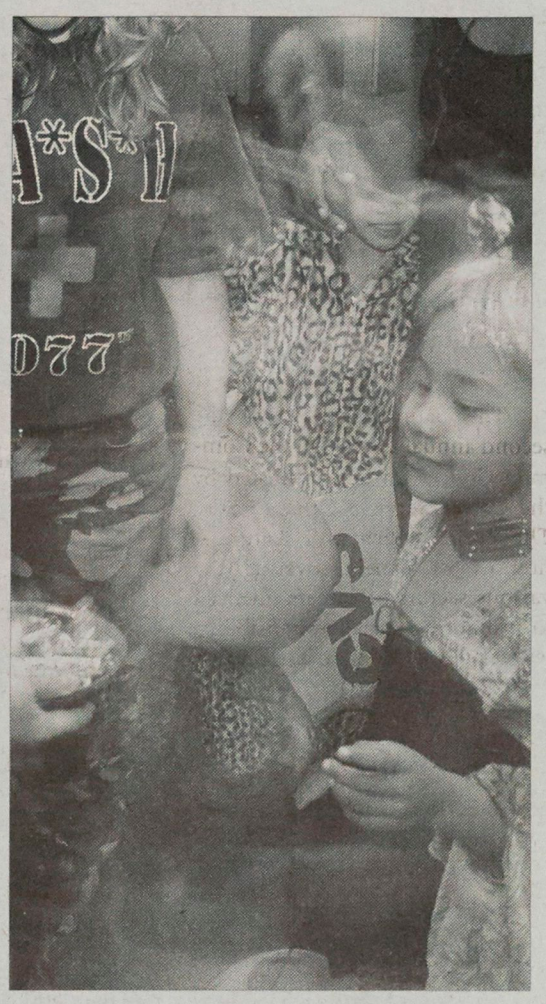
The club's only obstacle thus far has been funding, said Semidey.

Due to its great success last year, another basketball tournament is in the making. DMC hopes a little three-on-three will unite students because, he emphasized, "That is what DMC is all about — bringing people together."

"We just want to get together and have a good time. In doing so, we want to make an impact on campus. We want to break down racial barriers that prevent interracial relationships because, when it comes down to it, we're all just people," said Semidey.

The organization is committed to expanding its membership to include a wider range of people. When asked about the current status of racial mixing on campus, Semidey replied, "There is room for improvement, but I am confident."

Albert Bitici



College students and local children all took part in DMC-sponsored Halloween festivities at PALANA Friday afternoon and night.

'Fowl' Ending to Midd-Williams Mathematics Rivalry

By Caroline Stauffer
Features Editor

"Among 27 identical-looking coins, one is counterfeit weighing slightly less than the others. Using a double pan balance, identify the counterfeit coin in as few weighings as possible."

This was one of six problems tackled by students from Middlebury and Williams Colleges in the annual "Green Chicken Contest" last Saturday.

The answer is three, the same number of points by which Middlebury fell short to Williams in what Professor of Mathematics Pete Schumer called "one of the closest contests ever."

The event has taken place every fall since 1978, alternating between Middlebury and Williams College campuses. Originally, the competition was held the same weekend as the football game between the schools, increasing the rivalry. Now, the event simply takes place on a convenient Saturday.

"Though Williams is not technically the devil, we prefer that they don't win the Green Chicken," Tim Bahls '06 said. Bahls was quick to point out that Middlebury won the competition by a wide margin last year.

Professor of Computer Science Bob Martin is one of the contest's creators and is still actively involved in the competition.

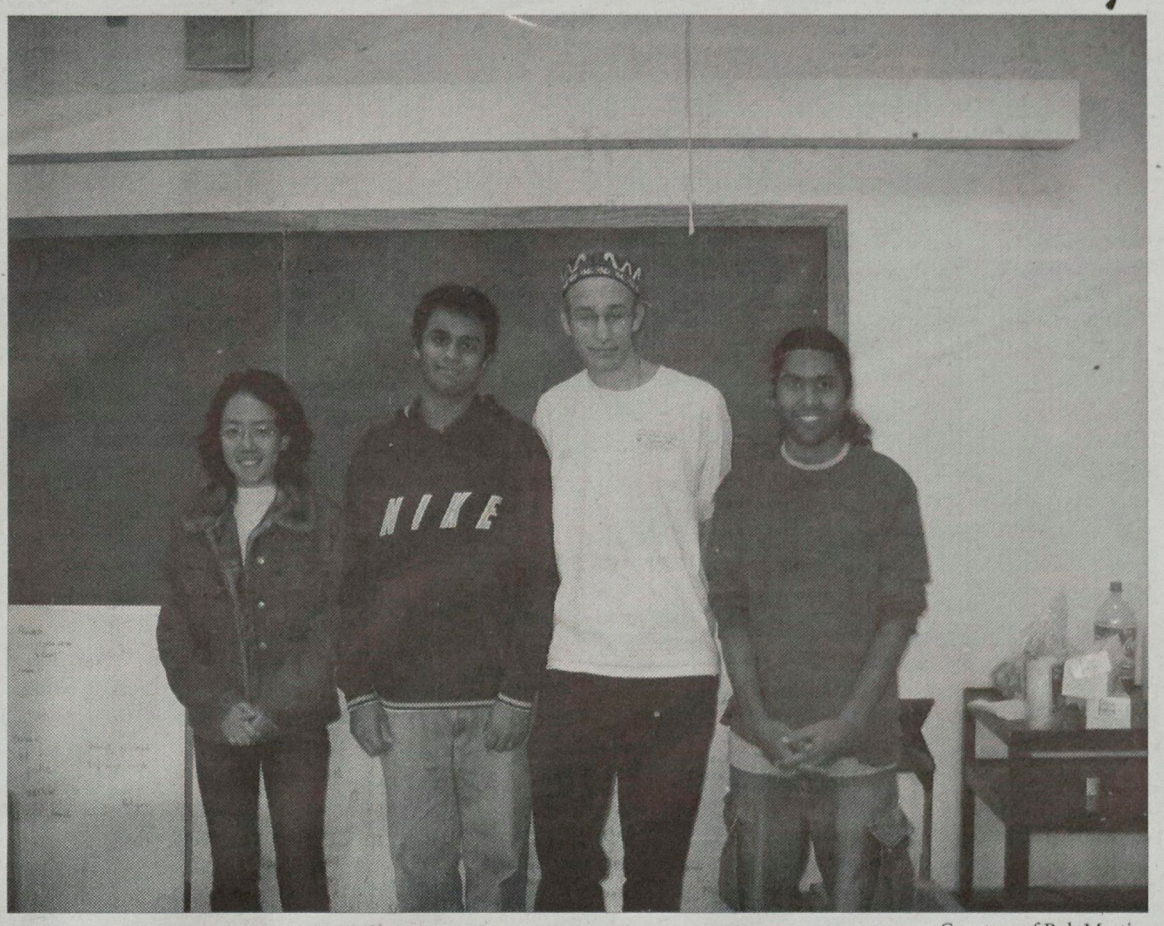
Any Middlebury or Williams student is welcome to take the two-hour exam. While many competitors are math majors, some are also computer science, physics, economics or other majors. There is also a wide participation from first-years.

After the two-hour time limit, the contestants eat lunch together and the tests are scored out of a maximum 60 points. The four top scores from each team are added together to determine each team's score.

William's final score was 223. Middlebury's score of 220 included two scores of 57 by Siddharth Rajaram '06 and Bahls, a score of 56 by Siddartha Rao '04 and a score of 50 by Zilai Gan '07. A total of 15 Middlebury students and 19 Williams students took the exam, in what Schumer called, "one of our best turn-outs yet."

"Not only was this one of the closest contests ever, the total scores were also among the highest ever," Schumer said.

"And as the person who writes the tests when the contest is at Middlebury, I don't think the questions were any easier than in the past."



Courtesy of Bob Martin

The Middlebury team, comprised of Zilai Gan '07, Siddharth Rajaram '06, Tim Bahls '06 and Siddartha Rao '04, fell by the narrowest of margins to Williams College in the annual Green Chicken Mathematics Contest.

Math whizzes that missed the Chicken do not have long to wait for the next upcoming challenge. Students from all over North America take the six-hour William Lowell Putnam Competition simultaneously in December. The median score on this exam is often zero, according to Schumer.

For the Common Good: Exploring Socially Responsible Careers

By Meghan Keenan
Staff Writer

This Saturday will mark the second annual Careers in the Common Good Symposium hosted by the Career Services Office (CSO). The event, which will feature a number of panels covering the various sectors of careers involved in promoting social responsibility, will take place from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. in Le Chateau Grand Salon.

> I really want students to see that you can make a viable living while being happy and successful in service-oriented jobs.
>
> —Krista Siringo

Director of Career Development Krista Siringo and Director of Middlebury College Alliance for Civic Engagement Tiffany Sargent formally initiated "Careers in the Common Good" last year.

The program was created to encourage students to pursue careers in the public, non-profit and private sectors that make positive impacts on their communities.

Although the symposium serves as a highlight of the program, Careers in the Common Good is a year-long service offering many resources for students interested in careers of this nature.

The program conducts Alumni Career Conversations throughout the year focusing on socially driven careers and also participates in not-for-profit career fairs in the spring in Boston, Mass., New York, N.Y. and Philadelphia, Penn.

Siringo organized this year's symposium by contacting Middlebury alumni involved in social organizations. She received many responses from alumni stating how much they would have benefited from such a program while attending Middlebury.

Over 20 alumni based throughout the East Coast offered to participate in the symposium this weekend.

The day will consist of a grant-writing workshop, career panels covering service programs, environmental science, internationally focused non-profits, strategic planning, direct social service and government and a keynote lunch entitled "Working for the Common Good" from Charles Bennett '65.

Bennett's talk will focus on global/corporate citizenship and sustainable business practices and include discussions on the most successful ways to craft a career in non-profit, profit and government professions.

Last year's symposium was considerably smaller and consisted of a single panel and networking luncheon. Approximately 10 alumni from all sectors of this field participated in the panel.

Although the students, faculty and staff who attended brought a lot of energy to the event, the panel's organization was not entirely conducive to the material being presented. Since there are so many different ways in which to involve oneself in social fields, the panel did not allow its participants to focus on their specific work but limited them to a general overview of the field.

The event did create significant interest in the program, though, and led to the formation of a Careers in the Common Good advisory board. This group of students meets about once a semester to discuss the direction of the program and offer new resources to attract both students and alumni.

The program also generated much faculty and staff interest, and this year's symposium will be moderated entirely by staff members.

Siringo is extremely optimistic about this year's symposium and hopes it will build on the increased participation over the past year.

"It will really show all the ways you can become involved in Careers in the Common Good," Siringo noted.

She continued, "I hope this symposium will demonstrate that you can do what you are passionate about and still make a difference. Many of the skills we will highlight can also transfer into the private sector, and even if you are not entirely sure of what you want to do, this symposium will enlighten you to the many ways of becoming involved with a social justice cause."

Siringo also hopes the symposium will raise campus awareness about service and show students the various resources available to them.

"I really want students to see you can make a viable living while being happy and successful in this type of business," Siringo remarked.

The symposium hopes to demonstrate that direct involvement with a non-profit program is not necessary to make a social difference. Many for-profit companies such as Ben and Jerry's and The Body Shop look to make a profit while at the same time promoting social awareness. Students can also become involved with large companies that make significant contributions to charitable foundations.

Siringo also advises students to attend the grant-writing workshop to learn this highly adaptable skill. Although grant writing acts as one of the main ways to gain funding in the non-profit sector, students looking to secure grants for future research and travel will also find this workshop extremely helpful. Depending on the response to this workshop, the Career Services Office may include this type of workshop in the future as well.

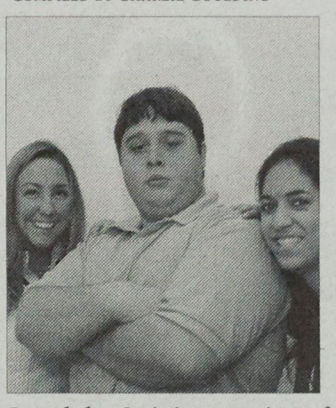
The Careers in the Common Good program looks to encourage students to research all options and to become involved with organizations with social missions. It invites all to attend Saturday's symposium to find out what this line of work is all about.

Campus Voices

BannerWeb registration will occur this year in 'real time'. What do you do in your fake time?

Compiled by Charlie Goulding

Photos by Vlad Lodoaba

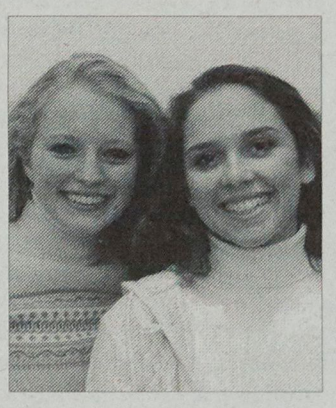


I read the Opinions section of *The Campus.*

— Sam Rodriguez '04

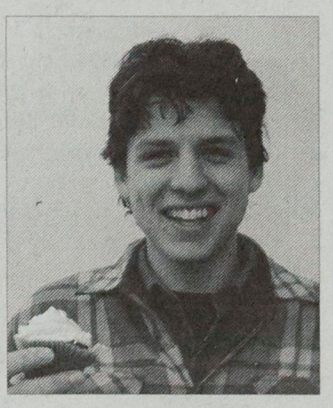
Kidnap yo mama.

— Catherine Hileman '05



What?

— Virginia Harper '07
and Olivia Katz '07



I have my cake and eat it, too!

— Richard Root '05

Blowin' Indie Wind

by Erika Mercer

The artist: Iron & Wine
The album: "The Sea & The Rhythm"
Release Date: Sept. 9, 2003

Featured on WRMC's "Album of the Week" this Sunday, 9 p.m. to 10 p.m.

When I say this album puts you to sleep, I mean it in the best sense possible. On my first listen, I wasn't even able to make it beyond the third song before my eyes started closing, but ever since that moment, I haven't wanted to listen to anything else — or do anything else, for that matter.

In the same way that a hypnotist dangles his golden pocket watch before your eyes, Sam Beam, the one-man show behind Iron & Wine, uses his guitar, banjo and voice to lull and dazzle you into a dreamstate. Beam's delicate, overlapping harmonies wash over you like the hypnotist's whispering voice, instructing you to count backwards from 10, gently coaxing you into a world from which only the music can release you.

Beam's hypnotic skills only became known to the world in September 2002, when he released his first album, "The Creek Drank the Cradle," a side project the Miami Beach film professor had long been perfecting. Though he recorded the album in his home on a basic four-track device, Beam exploited its modest production, making the inevitable background noises and gentle hiss of the tape seem both fitting and intentional. Together with his gentle voice, which melts like caramel over the tops of the songs, and the bittersweet twangs of his banjo and guitar, these home-cooked noises and hisses provide the album with an irresistible flavor.

Which is why, when it came time to release the companion piece, "The Sea & the Rhythm," this past September, Beam stuck with the same ingredients. This 25-minute EP is culled from home-sessions between 1999 and 2002 — the same sessions from which he gathered the songs for his first album. These five new songs, while not flaunting any new tricks, are nevertheless solid and beautiful. If you liked "The Creek Drank the Cradle," Beam's new release won't let you down.

The album's first song, "Beneath the Balcony," opens with a gentle stumble, as drunken chords saunter onstage, tripping happily over their own feet. Beam's voice soon joins them — "Let's go out and dance, darling / Our last of days / And grace the game with a blindfold on / The cheaters came to play" — breathing irony and gentle sarcasm over the tipsy chords. From there, the lyrics go on to relate a cryptic parable of a warrior reduced to a beggar — made denser, as many of Beam's lyrics are, by religious overtones.

Following "Beneath the Balcony" is the album's title song, "The Sea & the Rhythm," a beautiful, seductive tale of lovemaking, in which Beam parallels the ocean's movement with the rhythm of his and his lover's bodies. For instance, he begins the song with the phrase, "Tonight we're the sea and the salty breeze," and later completes the parallel with, "And salty my sweat and fingertips." Hushed but intense, the song, like a cool breeze, will both soothe you and make goose bumps rise on your skin.

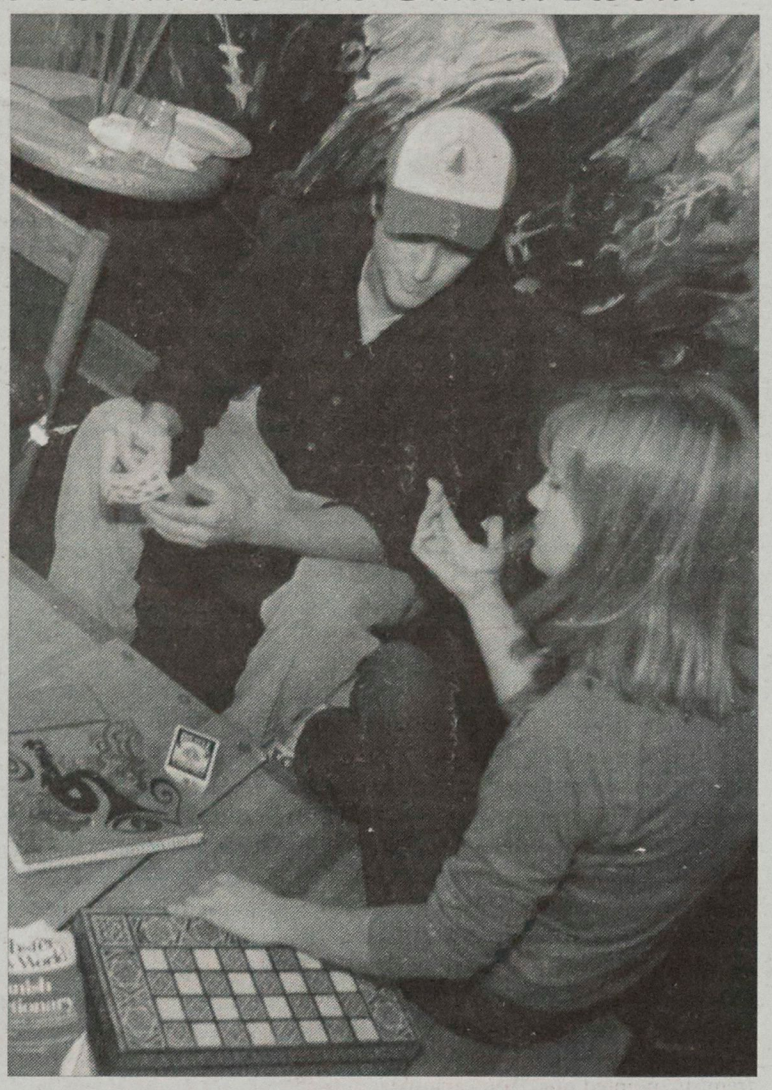
Another noteworthy song is "Jesus the Mexican Boy," the fourth song on the album. Unlike the majority of Beam's lyrics, which remain relentlessly mysterious and impenetrable, this song's lyrics are surprisingly concrete. He tells a narrative about a boy who provides comfort through simple acts of kindness and generosity yet is eventually betrayed by a friend (note the biblical reference to Judas). Despite this act of betrayal, though, the boy immediately forgives his friend, and in the end kisses him "like a brother." While the religious allegory in this song is clear, most of the time, Beam's lyrics are too dense and ambiguous to lend themselves to a simple interpretation — one never gets the sense that he is forcing the religious aspects of his lyrics on the listener.

"The Sea & the Rhythm" remains faithful to its title — it laps gently and rhythmically against your ears, numbing you into a peaceful state until you feel as though you are floating back and forth, rising and falling in cadence with its soft sounds. So I warn you — do not press play if you have anywhere to be in a hurry, anything that needs to be done immediately, anybody you need to conduct witty or rapid conversation with in the near future. But otherwise, keep your ears on the rhythm and let yourself be hypnotized.

Ushering More Action to 'G-Spot'

New Managers Revitalize The Gamut Room

By Chris Grosso
Arts Editor



Vlad Lodoaba

Schuyler Van Horn

Students chat in the Gamut Room (above). Visiting musicians from Burlington play tunes in the rejuvenated space in Gifford basement.

Reclined in a comfortable, homey leather chair comparable to the sleep-inducing cushions of the Great Hall, I'm engaged in my molecular biology text. It's around 9 p.m. on a Wednesday evening, and I can't help but notice that in the Gamut Room, a healthy crowd is lounging around and participating in myriad activities. To my right I observe a girl stretched out on a couch reading a novel. The walls around her are adorned with a gallery of black-and-white photographs. To my immediate left a couple of guys are chatting and playing a game of Mastermind. Four older men with Irish accents are setting up some instruments on the platform near the entrance for their 10 p.m. show. I hear a plate drop in the kitchen, and it brings my attention to the pleasant aroma of coffee and other culinary concoctions emanating from the service window. I smile, kick back and continue reading.

For the past five years the Gamut Room has been a student-run cafe in Gifford's basement. Since 1992, it has been in competition with The Grille as the place for casual, evening entertainment and socializing. Centrally located, this place has much to offer. Last spring Robbie Adler '05.5 and Jon Warnow '06.5, Gamut Room managers, decided to compile a list of aspirations for the underutilized student space.

Within two months they have dramatically revitalized the Gamut Room, opening a small art gallery, vastly expanding the menu and bringing in biweekly performers. Their hard work, complemented by a supportive staff, has paid off as they have succeeded in molding the Gamut Room into a user-friendly lounge. The purchasing of board games, the elimination of railings and the addition of new furniture have further warmed the atmosphere.

The Vitality in the Arts Community Association (VACA) is a new arts organization on campus that has recently mounted a display of artwork in the Gamut Room. The quaint gallery shows an impressive selection of images highlighting the talent of the student body. They're intense pictures well worth a look. About two times a week the Room hosts a musical performance. Last week the Dissipated Eight serenaded the café-goers, and then an Irish folk group jammed for a bit. The music selection is eclectic. Most of the bands hail from the Burlington area, and student bands are always welcome to perform. In the upcoming weeks, the managers are hosting a celebration of the First Amendment. The open microphone night, hosted by the Otter Nonsense improvisational troupe, will pay tribute to the United States Constitution's opening lines. Be on the look out for advertisements to join the political ranting!

The Gamut Room's all-vegetarian, all-organic menu offers such goodies as nachos and cheese, freshly baked, homemade cookies, tasty quesadillas — a personal favorite — and other snacks. The coffee is some of the finest on campus. To add to the domesticity of the place, all beverages and meals are served in ceramic glasses and plates — forget about the environmentally unfriendly paper goods. The managers rave, "It is a viable, low-cost option to The Grille."

The Gamut Room's all-vegetarian, all-organic menu offers such goodies as nachos and cheese, freshly baked, homemade cookies, tasty quesadillas — a personal favorite — and other snacks.

Don't be confused by the illusory menu, though. The suggestion of fried alligator tails and buffalo steak sandwich fresh from the Adirondacks is deceivingly mouthwatering. Each night the enthusiastic staff conjures up a selection of delectable and exotic dishes, and serves them up as a testament to the Gamut Room's authentic and friendly atmosphere.

The walls of this creative Mecca will definitely grab your attention. Although the room is dimly lit, the lamps allow visitors to view the decorative walls. They are painted with a montage ranging from cartoons to portraits of performers to abstract explorations in color.

The Gamut Room is open Sunday through Thursday from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Sunday night is designated as Turkish night because the entire staff is of that nationality. On this special evening the workers tell fortunes, cook ethnic dishes and teach their native tongue.

When you are looking to spend time in a low-key, laidback and somewhat private setting, don't overlook the Gamut Room. While it does get crowded and a bit noisy, for the most part, the cafe is a great place to get reading done or just mingle with friends. According to one customer, the Gamut Room's nickname is the "G-spot" — once you find it, you'll be there all night!

'High Life' Steeped in Stunts, Rich in Reasoning

By Abbie Beane
Arts Editor

"Man it's a lot of pain, it's a lot of pain," persisted the first track and what should have been the title track of the film "High Life," as stout-hearted kayakers crashed into the rushing falls of the wild West and skiers hurled themselves over formidable mountain precipices, dangling from the edge of survival. My response? Sure I believe you.

"High Life," compiled by Teton Gravity Research (TGR), based in Jackson, Wyo., and screened courtesy of the Snow Bowl Ski Patrol last Friday, turned out a more modest crowd than in past years. However, those who did decide to put the Halloween booze and bon bons on hold were rewarded by a mind-blowing spectacle of shots taken anywhere from Alta (a popular ski resort just outside of Salt Lake City, Utah) to Italy and everywhere else in between.

I'm convinced this film would leave anyone flabbergasted, even the participants themselves were they to watch their intrepid moves in retrospect. The debate lies in whether these ski/board junkies would fall, quite literally, under the title of admirable "mountain riders" or audacious fools on the ski god's sliding scale — maybe somewhere in between.

To some this film could simply be a lot of "powder and mirrors," further washed out by commercialism — too many advertisements for Boeri, Voika and Burton snowboard and ski equipment, or just a bunch of shameless, extremist ski bums who live by alcohol and powder alone. And no, the powder cannot be emphasized enough. But as one of those "extremists" pointed out, "You can't make fun of a guy for not landing something if it's twice as high as what you did."

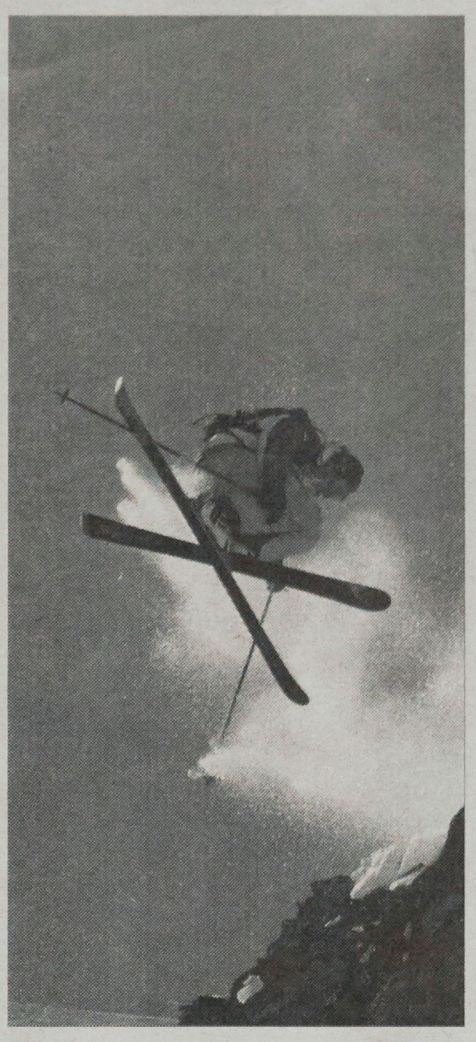
Don't overanalyze this film. I know most of you are in college, but taken for what it is, it's one incredible cliff-hanger of a documentary about the people who live to ride the mountains — all the mountains and all the mountains in between those mountains. Cradled by some of the most awe-inspiring scenery in the country and in the world, the combination of sites and stunts team up for one heli of a ride. Zermatt, Switzerland and Chamonix, Alta and Lake Tahoe, Haines, Alaska, and Bella Coola, British Columbia, Italy and Rendez-Vous Mountain in the heart of the Teton Village in Jackson Hole are just some of the locales where this film is shot. Sure, the resorts in these places make for a mad circus of "Joey skiers" (skiers who spend too much time picking out North Face gear and not enough time on the slopes), but there's a good reason why they're so "overrated." As everyone knows, powder is key and these bad boys have got it. And if they don't? As one young skier commented, "When Lake Tahoe had no powder, well, we went to Europe." The skier's motto is, "When it's good, it's good, and you gotta do your thing" because the fresh "pow pow" — as many westerners call it — could be gone tomorrow, and then you can kiss "puffy la la" land goodbye.

If the thrill and the overwhelming swell of adrenaline don't make the risk of extreme skiing and boarding all worthwhile, apparently having the chance to hang out on the mountains in some of the most resplendent and imposing country on earth does.

It's worthwhile for the spectators, too. Who doesn't want to watch someone jump out of a helicopter onto the apex of a sheer drop-off, dive over the rocky faces below and crash finally into a welcoming avalanche of fresh, white, undisturbed snow along a near 90-degree spine? Throw a couple of "hellis" and flips into the mix? Well, except maybe the French. In fact, one Frenchman interviewed in the film doesn't even consider flashy hellis or radical stunts skiing at all. Their idea is that you have to ride the mountain, feel it under your skis and appreciate it in its entirety, which is a long standing tradition in Europe. This is not to say that much of the film neglected to depict exactly that. It often brimmed with long clips of "true" skiing and boarding. Furthermore, some skiers and riders would say nothing is more fun than "pressin' glass" — riding or carving tracks in fresh powder for the first time — on a sunny day, as opposed to doing flips aided by man made jumps on the mountain or stunts over handrails in the resort's parking lot.

So call it what you will — "hella sick" if you're from the west coast or over-the-top, trite extremism barely visible under all of the Salomon and Swix stickers, but I'm still shaking my head in disbelief.

For more information and photos on Teton Gravity Research's current projects visit www.tetongravity.com



Courtesy
Kent Kreitler busts a radical trick in the fresh powder.

Courtesy
A courageous Jeremy Jones gets ready to drop at least 20 feet out of a moving helicopter onto the looming precipice below. His only protection? His board and the piece of hard plastic covering his head.

The Reel Critic
by Matthew Clark

The three girls are beautiful — the courageous, defiant, yet innocent beauty of youth. The Australian landscape is blistering yet sustaining. Hot, powdery dust coats faces and the camera lens. I should have loved it, this story of triumph and tragedy, but "Rabbit Proof Fence" was as slow as the girls plodding through the desert.

The rabbit proof fence literally ties the country together. Running its entire length, the fence was built to keep the "rabbits out and the cattle in." The Australian government of the 1930s likens the "problem" of "Half-castes" — people of half aboriginal half English-Australian descent — to the problem of rabbits. Something has to be done. Mr. Neville, the devil, is running a program that will breed the aboriginal blood from half-castes one generation at a time. Slowly, the inferiors will be bred out. The irony of Mr. Neville's every utterance reminds us how deeply misinformed we can be. He speaks of how he is just helping the natives, "protecting them from themselves," and we look at Mr. Neville and hope we can protect ourselves from our own ignorance. The sincerity of his misguided endeavor reminds us of how dangerous we can be to ourselves. Under the Australian policy, children are kidnapped and taken to the Moore River Native Settlement where they are instructed in the ways of civilized Australians by nuns in divine white dresses.

"Rabbit Proof Fence" tells the story of three girls, 14-year old Molly, Daisy, who is eight years old and 10-year old Gracie, yanked from their screaming mother's arms and shipped in a cage to the Settlement. Molly is the most defiant and clearly the leader of the three. Before Moore River we see her stalking and capturing huge lizards to eat. As rain clouds brew and thunder echoes she leads them into the most lush stand of trees they will see for their entire 1,200 mile return to the small village of Jigolong.

The truth of the story is what kept me engaged in this movie. It is a terrible bit of history — an amazing story of survival. There is a shot of the real Molly and Daisy, colorful women, bent over walking sticks at the end of the movie that forces the reality of the story upon the spectator.

Despite the hope and the history, "Rabbit Proof Fence" moves slowly and predictably. I was a bit disgusted by what seemed to be a few Hollywood-inspired additions, one of which we see flying overhead in the Jigolog. The "spirit bird" appears again (of course) just as we are starting to lose hope of the girls' survival. I appreciate the attempt at capturing some of the "spirit" of the aboriginal tradition, but that bird was so clichéd that it lost all its meaning.

Following as straight a course as the rabbit proof fence, the movie had no real twists. It is a movie of close calls. The viewer knows the "calls" will only be "close" and so the fear and suspense surrounding the possibility of danger is lost. With evil always close on the heels of the three girls, they barely manage to outfox (but always do) the dark weathered face of the aboriginal tracker. Wouldn't you know that even when starvation seems eminent strangers offer fresh kangaroo leg to the women. People also offer shelter and direction, always in the nick of time. It felt very hokey and romanticized, like a movie I've seen a thousand times before.

"Rabbit Proof Fence"
Released Dec. 25, 2002
Cast: Everlyn Sampi, Tianna Sansbury, Laura Monaghan, David Gulpilil, Ningali Lawford, Kenneth Branagh
Director: Phillip Noyce
Producers: Phillip Noyce, Christine Olsen, John Winter
Screenplay: Christine Olsen, based on "Follow the Rabbit-Proof Fence" by Doris Pilkington
Running Time: 1:34
MPAA Classification: PG (Mature themes)

Editors' Picks
(Hey, get outta town.)

Chris' Pick
MAUREEN FLEMING "DECAY OF THE ANGEL:" In lyrical, sculptural transcendence inspired by *butoh* (the minimalist Japanese dance form), Maureen Fleming invents surreal movement poetry, curving her body into shapes of shattering beauty. Fleming presents a feminine response to terrorism in her new multimedia creation, "Decay of the Angel." Loosely based on the myth of Hagoromo, as told in an ancient Japanese play, the piece incorporates contemporary *ikebana* (the Japanese art of flower arrangement) by Japanese artist Gaho Taniguchi, film and images by award-winning dance photographer Lois Greenfield, music by Philip Glass and live music. The show contains nudity.
When: Friday, Nov. 7 to Sunday, Nov. 9
Time: 8 p.m. | 2 p.m.
Where: Flynn Space, Burlington
Price: $20 adults | $16 students
Info: www.flynncenter.com

Abbie's Pick
WAYNE WONDER | ITATION SOUNDS: Dance-hall and reggae have provided a foundation for Jamaica-born singer Wayne Wonder, but his later albums have veered further and further toward hip-hop and rap. His collaborations include work with J'son from Soul for Real, Foxy Brown and the late Lisa "Left Eye" Lopez from TLC. This has resulted in even greater success for Wonder. Five tunes from "da Vibe" have been in rotation by commercial radio stations throughout the Caribbean. Wonder launched his own record label, Singso, in 2000, and released "da Vibe." "Schizophrenic" followed in 2001. Earlier this year, he released "No Holding Back" on Atlantic Records.
When: Wednesday, Nov. 12
Time: doors 9 p.m. | 18+
Where: Higher Ground, Winooski
Price: $18 advance | $20 day of show
Info: www. highergroundmusic.com

Literary Picks

by Edward Pickering

Title: " Burmese Days""
Author: George Orwell
First Publication: 1934

In search of overlooked but deserving books, I have sometimes read the early or lesser-known works of famous authors. Robert Penn Warren's debut novel "Night Rider" was a recent treat. George Orwell's early novel, "Burmese Days," on the other hand, proved a great disappointment.

We are all admirers of Orwell, devotees of his prose and ideology. You'll be hard pressed to find a man or woman who doesn't profess admiration for Orwell and for his masterpieces, "Animal Farm" and "1984." It was with great expectation that I picked up "Burmese Days." I envisioned an exciting drama full of Orwellian insight and attack. However, in comparison to Orwell's more renowned writings, I found the novel crude and unconvincing. Though it has its moments, "Burmese Days" ultimately proves grotesque, depressing, at times even farcical.

The novel takes place in Kyauktada, a remote town on the banks of the Irrawaddy River in northern Burma. Here lives a population of four thousand Burmese, a handful of Chinese and Indians and seven Englishmen who commercially and administratively oversee the region. The protagonist, 35-year-old Flory, is a timber merchant. Flory has not left the country since his arrival 15 years earlier. The novel opens with Flory on the verge of self-realization: his youth has elapsed in drinking, whoring and lazing about, and now he is lonely, remorseful and unhappy. The plot concentrates on the intrigue and uproar caused by an executive memo sent to Kyauktada's European Club — it proposes that the club members elect a token native. This club, the last all-white club in Burma, is a bastion of bigotry, a refuge for drunken louts and pretentious fools united by nothing more than a common disregard for the native population. In reality, they all hate each other and hate their lives. Through these sorry figures Orwell exposes the vileness of imperialism. It is a disease affecting the imperialists and imperialized alike. Indeed, nobody— not a single European or native—escapes Orwell's excoriating pen.

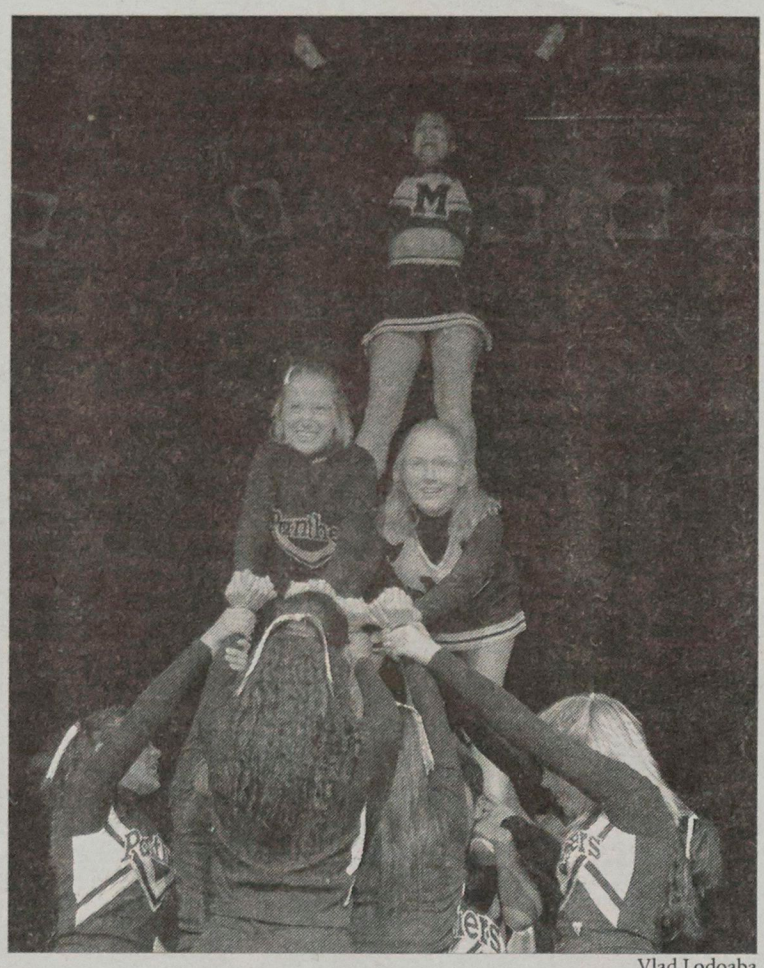
Of his countrymen, Flory, alone, befriends the natives. His innate cowardice is put to the test when he promises to nominate his Indian friend, Dr. Veraswami, for club membership. At this moment, as he is steeling himself for the upcoming trial, Flory meets Elizabeth, the niece of a club member and an exceptionally beautiful specimen of English womanhood. Yet, as Flory soon learns, her contempt for the Burmese knows no limit.

In this novel the natives are dumb, avaricious and petty, the Europeans, loathsome. One can't even sympathize with Flory, whose status as an outsider is symbolically confirmed by the hideous birthmark on his cheek. As you read the novel you pray for the deaths of these Europeans, for a universal tide of comeuppance to sweep them away and cleanse the land.

The novel's chief fault lies in its infelicitous transitions. Many of the events are unconvincing and a number of the scenes lack a vital and necessary life of their own — they are flat and dull. The ending itself lets the reader down. Orwell's conclusion seems like a cop-out, so simple and foreseeable is it.

Fine Tuned Midd Talent, Good To The Last Act

Annual Talent Show Embraces Cornucopia of Student Performers



Vlad Lodoaba

Middlebury cheerleaders stand up for the College and their sport last Saturday night at their talent show event.

Vlad Lodoaba

Michael Jou '06 lays his contortionist skills out on the stage, breaking his back to impress the crowd.

By Laura Rockefeller
Staff Writer

The Middlebury College Co-ed Cheerleading Team assembled a diverse and entertaining group of performers for their "Night of Talent" in McCullough Social Space on Saturday night. The acts, ranging from the impressive stunts of the Cheerleaders themselves, to On Tap and imaginative modern dancer Michael Jou '06, brought out enthusiastic reactions from the audience.

The night also included such unique acts as contortionism and a set of human bagpipes. McCullough favorite Brian Pletcher '04 was also on board to showcase his never tiring contact juggling act, complemented by some of the most engaging music in the show. Furthermore, the show saw good audience turn out, and despite getting off to a late start, it picked up the pace fairly quickly once it got its feet off the ground.

The show opened with a film by Angus Sutherland '05, Perry Blackshear '05 and Andy Arazoza '05. In it, Adam Sewall '03 and Toby Lawless SP elicited great laughter from the audience using their dramatic antics and performing a range of asinine stunts in Starr Library that every Middlebury student has always wanted to do yet has never had the nerve to try. Well, maybe some have.

This was followed by a singer-songwriter, Jenny Schneider '07, and then contortionist Julia Kaminsky '07, who astounded the audience with her incredible flexibility.

Perhaps the most unique performer in the first act was Zach Hacht-Leavitt '07, "the Human Bagpipes." He appeared on stage in a kilt and "played" a medley of traditional songs including "Scotland the Brave" and "Amazing Grace" by tapping his hand against his throat in some way that made the noises coming from his mouth sound startlingly like the bagpipes.

Right before the intermission, the Co-ed Competitive Cheerleaders performed one of their routines, which included impressive lifts and jumps, especially on the stage in McCullough where there was no comforting mat underneath them. They did a remarkable job staying in sync with each other, and perhaps most importantly, they all seemed to be having a great time.

Five members of On Tap started the second act off with a bang in a dance to "Cotton-Eyed Joe" choreographed by Nichole Nawfel '06. They were followed by the most cheered act of the evening, Crystal Belle '04, performing two of her poems.

Michael Jou '06, who has become familiar to audiences in McCullough thanks to his graceful modern dances, was the next to take the stage. This dance was different from his previous performances in talent shows in that he enlisted the aid of a large scarf rather than using a chair.

The final two performers were Greg Petrics '05 singing Elvis Presley's "Stuck on You" and contact juggler, Brian Pletcher. Juggling his mesmerizing crystal balls so effortlessly that they seemed to simply be bubbles floating in the air above the stage, Pletcher's act was as astounding as always.

Altogether, this eclectic assortment of performers proved an extremely entertaining evening of student talent.

Highway Freaker Plays to Halloween Freak Show

By Daniel Wolf Roda
Staff Writer

Highway Freaker made its long-awaited return to the Middlebury "jam" scene to celebrate the night of demons, goblins and just general scariness, playing last weekend in Johnson. There was no charge to get in, only a strict costume requirement, so we went dressed as newspaper reporters to get the inside scoop on what was going on inside this notorious art building.

"Finally," said the what seemed like eight-foot tall guitar player, who we will refer to as Santa Claus, "a room I can play guitar in without having my head hitting the ceiling." Then the Montreal-based jam band proceeded to play some sizzling funky numbers while costume clad Midd-kids bounced around excitedly trying not to wreck their dinosaur masks and cardboard chainsaws. The group pulled off such horrifying hits as T.V. theme song "Ghostbusters," while the exotic mermaid [illegible] ight[illegible] the [illegible]udience with her demonic growls. They also covered songs by The Talking Heads, Led Zeppelin and many more.

The event included a giant haunted maze, built by real Midd-kids, and a special artsy image projected onto the wall behind the band, which could be manipulated to "boogie" to the music and which was, according to Mike Rimoin '05, just plain, "cool."

There was also much excitement about the costume contest. Hunter Hess made a special appearance. Trick or treat! The Dude (as I like to call him) dressed quite successfully like a middle-aged woman, and boo! Sinan Tanridag '04 dressed like The Dude. Will they ever be the same? There were also students dressed like little babies, a sado-masochist couple (was that a costume?), an especially cute pair of dice and (drum roll please) the winner, a gigantic black hole from the space nebula, who remained plugged into the wall for at least 30 percent of the activities, unplugging only to accept the coveted prize, a date with the lead singer Serena and as-of-yet unbestowed upon him, a photograph taken by Middlebury graduate Ryan Kopel '03.

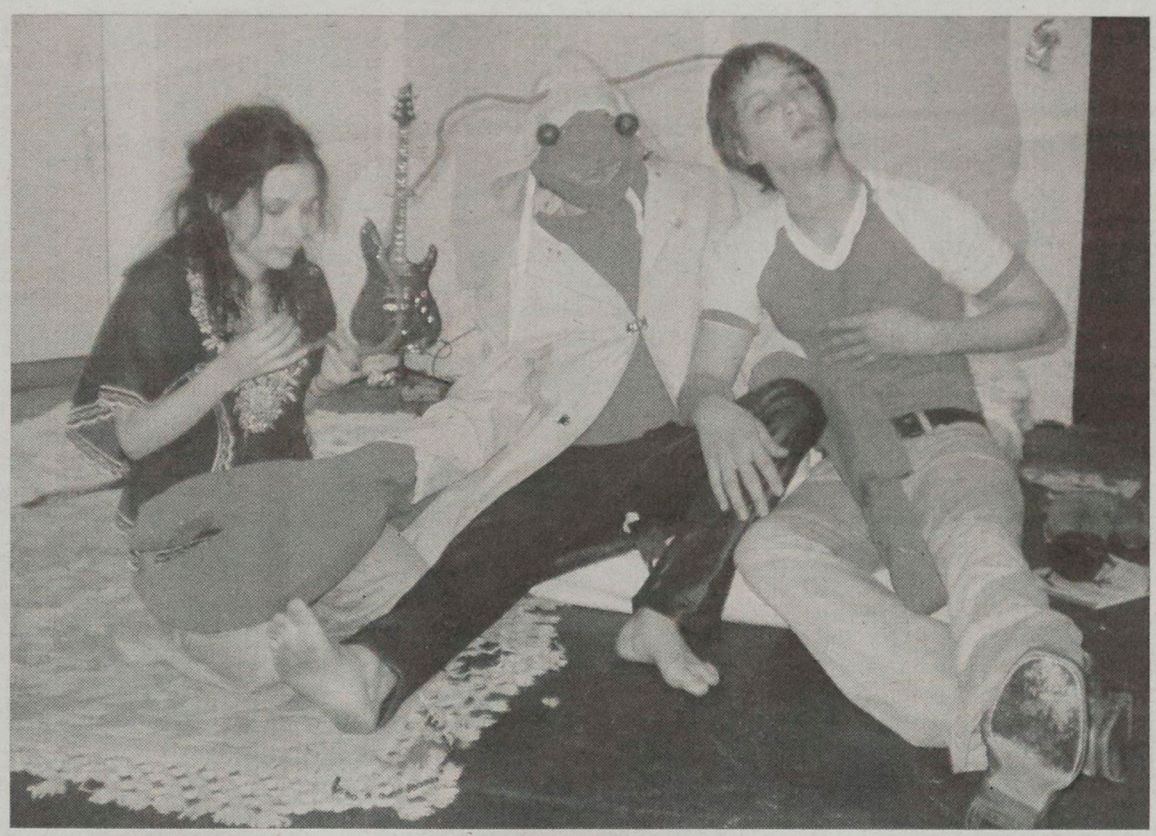
It was also vocalist Serena's birthday, and for those of you who were there, she's not 27! Some further investigation yielded that she is at this point in space-time really 30 years old and that she is dating Santa Claus, who rocked an enormous eight-and-a-half-inch white beard. Way to go Santa!

But this group of rockadelicks are not too old to party — they stayed up until dawn, assembling a variety of chairs and other furniture on top of their drummer, who happened to be the first unlucky band member to pass out. Further late night band activities included howling at the rising sun, beer-or-treating and devouring late-night ravioli.

After the day's events, the band decided to change its name from Highway Freaker to Midnight Freaker after being asked by some unsuspecting Midd-kid, "Hey, are you in the band Midnight Freaker?" The band, after looking up the word "Midnight" in the Oxford Heritage Dictionary, decided it could not resist the new moniker and changed it for good.

Now they will forever bring some Halloween spirit along with them as Midnight Freaker tours on Asian cruise ships playing soul and Motown standards — this being the prediction of the keys player, dressed up like a mad scientist from hell. And the middle-aged scientist conceded, "This is my only hope for paying off my debt and moving out of my parents house."

So far, Middlebury has welcomed "Freaker" three times — once at its groundbreaking Mill show, which gave the lanky guitar player a headache and a crick in the neck, and for the second time last spring at the widely successful "Smilefest." Yet the spooky question remains, will we see Midnight Freaker and their flipped-out freaky van o' funk ever again?



Kim Bowker

Sheila Seles '05, Nick Cloutier '06 and Andres Arazoza '05 star in last weekend's production of "Cowboy Mouth."

Cowboy Mouth Ropes in Emotions

By Laura Rockefeller
Staff Writer

Sex, drugs and rock'n'roll were all part of the show in this weekend's production of Sam Shepard's wild play "Cowboy Mouth." The production, directed by Sarah Peters '04 in the Hepburn Zoo Theatre, was a passionate and intense roller-coaster ride of emotions, propelled by live music courtesy of Will Cleveland '04, Ryan Bogart '04, Perry Blackshear '05 and Matt Coons '04.

The play, set in the early 1970s, delved into the relationship between a man and woman who were both driven by their worship of music and poetry, the longing to create and the need for the stimulation and support of each other. In her director's notes, Peters quoted Patti Smith, who collaborated with Shepard on the writing of this play, as saying, "We were … trying to talk about two people that were destined — two big dreamers who came together but were destined to come to a sad end." And in watching the piece it became apparent that such an intense passion between two such dynamic artists was inevitably going to ignite, explode and finally consume itself in the blaze.

Sheila Seles '05 as Cavale and Andres Arazoza '05 as Slim created a very convincing and deep relationship between their two characters — a relationship that changed rapidly from moments of desperately needing each other to frantically driving each other away. Seles gave a particularly striking performance, facing the fact that her character was chronically popping pills during the show and taking the freedom and abandon that resulted from the drugs to the extreme.

The emotions and hysteria became so intense as Cavale took more pills and Slim drank more tequila, entering into a drug induced alter-reality of their own creation, that it was hard to really enjoy the play. But there was something fascinating and almost intoxicating in the mixture of the words and the music that kept the audience engaged. There was one particular monologue in which Slim, in an attempt to soothe Cavale, told the story of how he had once attempted to dam up a river. As he spoke, the flowing notes of the piano underscoring his speech echoed the sounds of the river and created a beautiful and poetic moment — a refreshing break from the screaming, swearing and loud drum beats.

Perhaps the most memorable character in the production, and the most extraordinary, was "the Lobsterman." When Arazoza first picked up the phone and called "the Lobsterman" to bring them a lobster and a bottle of tequila, I assumed that he was just drunk. It never crossed my mind that a few moments later a loud banging on the drum would announce the entrance of a real Lobsterman — an actor in a full lobster suit, complete with enormous claws, tale, feelers and a very large, very yellow raincoat and hat. However, in marched Nick Cloutier '06 in his lobster suit, looking composedly around at unsuspecting audience members, who laughed uncontrollably, never imagining that this unnatural creature would in fact be the Savior for whom Caval had been searching for so long, and who would finally pull Slim and Caval apart.

Although the play was difficult to watch with its incessant fever pitch of emotion, both in the acting and in the music, the characters and the world that they created through their imagination, the music and the remarkable set were gripping. Live music is a rarity in the Zoo, and it, along with the presence of the musicians' shadows behind the screen, added a deeper texture to the whole performance. It was a fascinating evening of theater that certainly made the spectators stop and think about what they had just seen.

The Art of Decorating — Yourself

By Zoey Burrows
Staff Writer

As a sophomore Feb, I really didn't know what to expect from the Halloween season at Middlebury College, but as it turns out, it was anxiety city! Beginning the week I felt more than a little apprehensive about what was to come. Would there be candy to eat? What was I to wear? And most importantly, would other people be decked out too?

Halloween at Middlebury seems to be a 24-hour-plus event, starting Thursday night and not petering out until the early morning hours on Saturday. Walking back to my dorm room Thursday night, I encountered a huge group of students dressed in their Halloween best, singing, chanting and laughing outside of Battell Hall. The swim team was evidently having its Halloween initiation. They proceeded to run laughing and hooting toward McCullough, moving as one impressive mass. Now I was excited for the day to come.

Relief washed over me when I spotted the first costumed student, Katie Polebaum '06.5, crossing the street Halloween afternoon. I had been worried that maybe I was mixed up and it wasn't Halloween at all, since I had seen no candy, no costumes, and little holiday cheer. Polebaum explained, "Halloween [is my] favorite holiday and I didn't want to wait until later to get dressed up." Polebaum was decked out in a fancy pirate outfit, what seemed to be one of the most popular costume themes Friday night, probably inspired by the screening of "Pirates of the Caribbean."

Although I missed the costume competitions in Ross and Proctor at Friday lunch and dinner, I was told that by dinner students were flaunting their stuff. Results of the competitions are as follows:

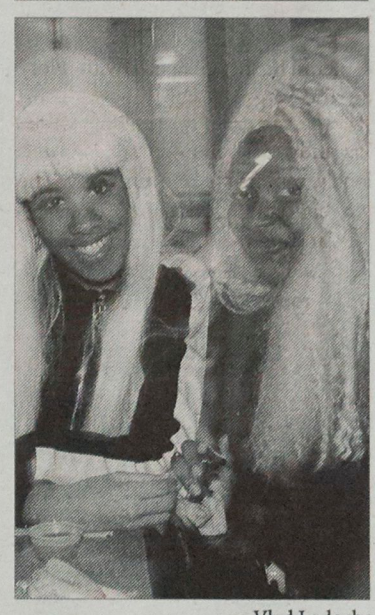
1st Place: Sophomores Erin Bell & Erika Norman – as Firelady & Police Officer.

2nd Place: Senior Lindsay Wolff as a Christmas Tree.

3rd Place: Senior Sarah Peters as Tinkerbelle.

Peters from North Waterboro, Maine, got her Tinkerbelle costume at Old Gold in Burlington and said, "I wanted to wear the costume before the premier of my directing 700 project last weekend." Other contestants were unavailable for comment, but should be congratulated on their spirited efforts to make the most of this wonderful holiday full of sugar, chocolate (I'm addicted) and crazy good times.

Dining Service Technical Leader John Nordmeyer, organized the competition. However, he did not make the final prize decisions, which were based on the pictures taken of each contender on Friday night in Ross and Proctor dining halls.



Vlad Lodoaba

Top: Amy Jenkins and Anna North
Bottom: Tina Velez, Athenia Fischer

Global Rhythms Show Taps Into New Talent and Old Favorites

By Venessa Wong
Staff Writer

GT Breakdancers closed the show with spunk, shattering their sarcastically sunny entrance with an awakeningly kinetic breakdance battle.

Rarely does one see McCullough outside of its typical attire — dressed up in a lot of trance music, belly shirts and body odor. Yet two weekends ago this social space was invaded, transforming it from its usual weekend venue, a thumping techno dance club, into a colorful stage for talent. We're talking about the Global Rhythms Show, and on Saturday, Oct. 25, Wonnacott Commons came together to present the second annual such collaboration, an event that according to Commons Faculty Head Cynthia Atherton, "was conceived of as a signature [Commons] event to pull the community together."

This year the show featured 13 performances, including its first alumni act by Damian Washington '03 and a cameo appearance by Dean Matt Longman on bass guitar with "Marco and Friends."

The Show revealed an impressive, and dare I say surprising, display of talent among Middlebury students, especially among its younger classes. Many of the newer performers brought fresh ideas and energy to the stage, going far beyond the tired "freshman-rock band-act," a danger that typically prowls around college variety shows.

One of the most memorable performers was Nikitas Stamatopoulos '07, who strutted incredible skills in a guitar duo, justifying his bold facade in lace-up leather pants and a red bandana. Ian Hough '07 made a blaring entrance as well, with his bloated green bagpipe whose thunderous sound awoke all audience members. Maurice Opara '05, a self-trained pianist who admitted to the audience that he cannot read music, demonstrated great aptitude with his renditions of two new-age pieces by Karl Jenkins.

Brian Pletcher '04, who over the past few years has earned the cognomen "Brian-the-Juggler," presented his signature Magic Juggle Ball act. His presence on stage was phenomenal, as his graceful command of a delicate bubble with gentle hands and impenetrable concentration guaranteed a captive audience. He has proven to be a perennial favorite.

Longman's cameo on bass guitar (augmented by his trademark genial smile) enhanced jam band "Marco and Friends" act, though their performance of Paul Simon's "Diamonds on the Soles of Her Shoes" already had audience members humming along.

The show also featured a number of dance performances, including Megan Hickey '06 and Kate McKendy '07 doing Irish Step Dance. Skipping light-footedly through the stage in white-collared shirts and dark skirts, one could not help but imagine a hybrid mix of frenzied Catholic schoolgirls and woodland fairies. Hickey's stomping segment near the end of the act was certainly the most impressive part, as the rhythm booming from her soles was seamless.

GT Breakdancers closed the show with spunk, shattering their sarcastically sunny entrance with an awakeningly kinetic breakdance battle, which roused much enthusiasm from the audience.

Other musical acts included Mchakamchaka's women's group, which melodiously jogged onto stage to open the show, Capoeira by Donald Bohannon '04, Caitlin Greenfield '04 and alumnus Maurice Chang, Jam-band Larson, Micah Gurard-Levin '07 on the piano, rap by alumnus Washington and Bossa Nova, and jazz by Chris Lizotte '06 and friends.

In addition to entertainment, the show also provided an assortment of desserts and a raffle contest for six door prizes (two of which were coincidentally won by Wonnacott Commons staff).

Amy Josephson '05, who worked on the Decorations and Door Prizes Committee for the event, says of the show, "[It] allows you to see talents that you would not otherwise see. It's part of diversity awareness. You see different forms of expression, food, music and performance. Even in rural Vermont you can find diversity."

Richard Novak '05 adds, "People talk about diversity, but [Global Rhythms] is really about finding out what that guy sitting next to you in your economics class does in his spare time."

The event was organized by Commons Faculty Head Cynthia Atherton, Coordinator Lorraine Zak, Dean Longman and Wonnacott CRAs, RAs and JCs.

Languor, Lassitude and Laughter: DeLuca's Recipe for Success

By Hans Manzke
Staff Writer

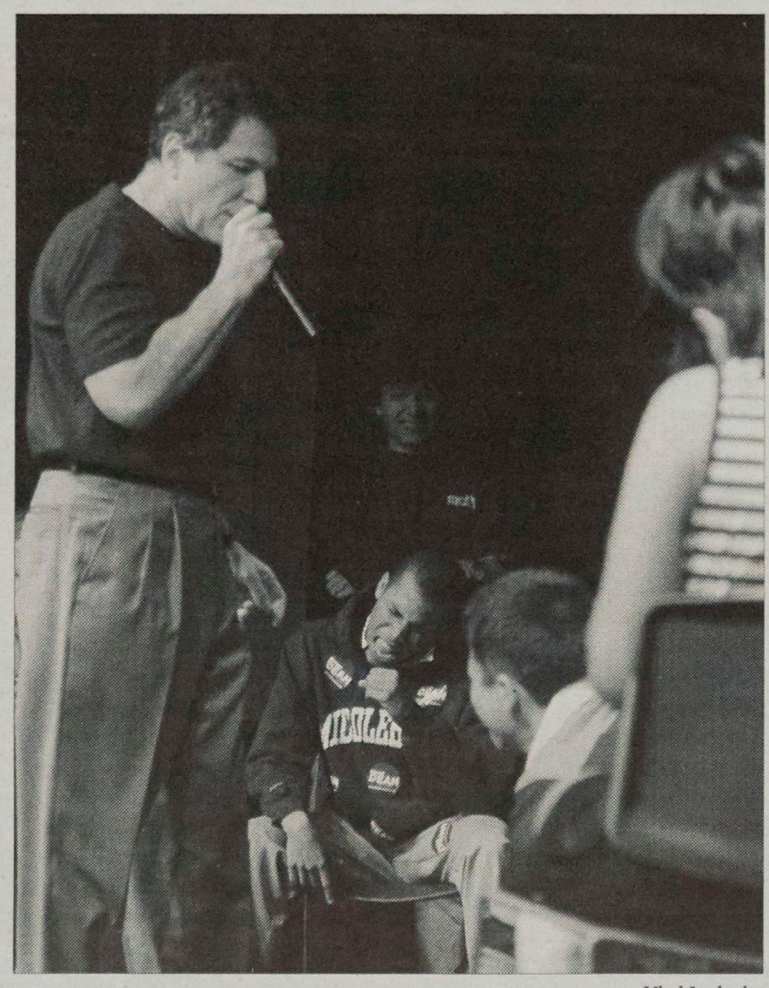
While DeLuca's sardonic, pedestrian sense of humor wasn't for everyone, and the generational gap quickly became apparent, he knew when to step out of the spotlight.

Hypnotist Tom DeLuca knows how to play to his talents. His polished show last Friday night had the McCullough Social Space in stitches for the entirety of his two hour performance, revealing both DeLuca's sharp wit and some things that we never thought we would know about our peers. The presence of scores of parents made the situations presented during the show acutely humorous and applicable. Thanking his "spiritual guide" Ms. Cleo, DeLuca chose 19 students and two parents to undergo hypnosis. DeLuca immediately discontinued the use of the microphone while administering to his volunteers, but the general gist of his method seems to revolve around deep relaxation.

Results were nearly automatic and slightly disturbing — 21 heads slumped simultaneously on DeLuca's command, eliciting astonished reactions from the crowd. What followed can best be described as hilarious, if not completely unexpected. While DeLuca's sardonic, pedestrian sense of humor wasn't for everyone, and the generational gap quickly became apparent, he knew when to step out of the spotlight. Relegating the starring role to his volunteers, DeLuca treated the audience to a male ballet duet, an enthusiastic rendition of Britney Spears' "Oops, I Did It Again," and a stunning exhibition of bodybuilding prowess. David Barker '06 was made to believe that fruit had feelings and went on to protect an apple and a banana, which he named Happy and Chiquita, respectively. He also participated in the ballet duet, and when asked for his foremost influence in ballet, he immediately responded with "Puff Daddy."

DeLuca's routine and success are dependent on his volunteers — the deep, dark recesses of the average college student's mind will almost always be hilarious and intriguing to other college students. DeLuca's volunteers seemed to be transported to a world where their cares slipped away, and they were free to act in ways that they probably would not in everyday life. This performance served to illuminate the hold that popular convention has on us in day-to-day life. While this insight can be surprising, and can foster some serious introspection, it is a joy to see our peers laying themselves bare.

Barker weighed in again after the show, stating that being hypnotized was "a warm feeling, like hitting the snooze button," while Chris Heinrich '07 said, "I remembered everything I did, but things that other people found funny, I just thought were stupid." Emotional withdrawal seemed to be pervasive among the volunteers, while DeLuca himself called the Middlebury show "terrific, a really fun group of kids." He also cited the basis hypnosis has in psychology and the imagination, stating that detachment is neccessary for the success of the show. Special Events Chair Meredith Kernan '05 of the Middlebury College Activities Board (MCAB), which sponsored the event, cited the sold out crowd of 300 as a clear indicator of success. The continued overhauling of McCullough as a valid social alternative versus off-campus locales remains high on MCAB's list of priorities. DeLuca's primary targets are both colleges and corporations, as cited on his Web site. He has performed for corporations like Microsoft, Capital One, American Express, Citigroup, BMW, Aetna and Anheuser-Busch. His college performances earned him this year's National Association of College Activity Boards (NACA) Variety Entertainer of the Year. He performs annually at the University of Virginia to a crowd of around 10,000, and this is the second year he has performed at Middlebury. With his ability to cater to his audience, it's easy to see why Tom DeLuca's show is as popular as it is.



Vlad Lodoaba

A participant indulges in an imaginary ice cream cone.

Vlad Lodoaba

Under DeLuca's influence, David Barker '06 expresses frustration towards his retreating ballet partner.

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Women's Rugby Rules New England

Penalty Kick Seals 3-0 Win in Overtime Thriller

By Peter Yordan
Sports Editor

In a stirring show of force and perseverance the Middlebury women's rugby team overcame injury, stormy weather, determined opponents and the burden of an up-and-down regular season to win their first ever New England Championship at MIT this weekend. After a convincing 10-0 win over the University of Maine — Farmington, the Panthers needed a last gasp penalty kick to win a thrilling 3-0 overtime victory over Worchester Polytechnic in order to secure the title and advance to Regionals this weekend at UMASS-Amherst. Even more importantly, with the victory Middlebury qualified to become a full time member of the elite Division II national rugby conference.

> I've never been a part of any game that was so even. It was really, really tough. It was so intense with all the parents and the fans.
>
> —Devin Green '04

Women's Rugby

Sunday, November 2

Middlebury	3
Worchester Polytechnic	0

The Panthers picked an opportune time to find their momentum. A month ago the squad was 2-2 and the playoffs were very much in doubt. It took a pair of gut-check victories over Keene State and Castleton in the Panthers' last two regular season games to see the team through to New Englands, where much to their surprise they were awarded the number one seed. The squad was not about to let their newfound ranking lead to overconfidence, however. "We knew we had the one seed, but since it's rugby and it's a new game, anything can happen, so we didn't want on prestige to win us anything," said Kate Nerenberg '05.

First on the horizon was the University of Maine — Farmington, a big, physical team nearly unknown to the Panthers. Middlebury quickly set about turning Farmington's strength advantage into a weakness, using their superior speed and technical skill to grind down their opponents on route to a powerful 10-0 win. "We were a better coached team with better athletes," said Nerenberg. "We went into it pretty confident we could win." Relying on speedy wing play from Trilby Reeve '05 and Joannah Opot '05, the Panthers were able to outflank the soon-winded Mainers again and again. Field Captain Katy Hoeschler '04 powered in with a try in the first half to give the team a 5-0 lead as Middlebury dominated possession. The Panthers doubled the scoreline on a Reeve try in the second half and then relied on stalwart defense to keep their hapless adversary at bay until time expired.

The team had little time to congratulate itself on its impressive performance, however, as Middlebury had to turn around and face off against a determined Worchester Polytechnic Institute side in the tournament final the very next day. "It was tough," said club President Devin Green '04, "we were all really sore and we knew that the team we would be playing was going to be a lot harder to beat." The Panthers were also without Green herself, whose scratched cornea forced her to the sidelines. On the line too was a critical promotion to Division II athletics for the program, a move that would push the squad into a whole new universe of competition. Middlebury would need to pull together another commanding performance to carry the day.

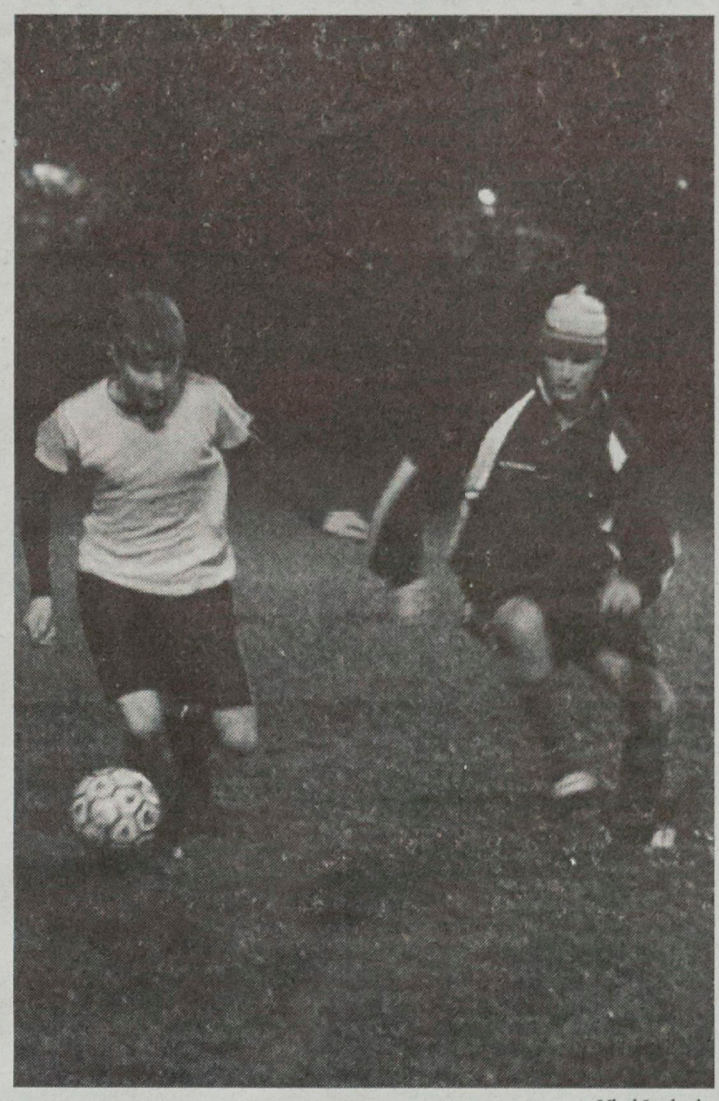
The game that followed, however, went beyond anyone's expectations. "I've never been a part of any game that was so even, it was really, really tough," said Green. "It was so intense, with all of the parents and the fans. Even people who weren't rooting for one team or the other were really impressed by how even the two teams were." Through 80 brutal minutes the two sides fought back and forth in a vain but determined attempt to score. "You could hardly hear your teammates screaming, it was so loud," said Nerenberg of the atmosphere on the field. "We definitely had a lot of confidence. We just knew that if we did all the little things right and played as a team we could come out on top."

Unable to score, however, Middlebury was forced to put its season on the line in overtime. The Panthers desperately worked to hold themselves together as WPI began to crack and bicker under the pressure. Yet still the game went on through two overtime periods without a breakthrough on either side. The game seemed destined for penalty kicks when Middlebury was awarded a crucial penalty kick two minutes from the end. That unenviable task fell to Nerenberg, who had missed an easier kick earlier in the game. "I was pretty frustrated and tired and I just wanted the game to be over," said Nerenberg. "I tried to kick it just like in practice." With the tension ratcheted up still higher, the team watched as Nerenberg's shot rose through the uprights. "It was scary, we were pretty nervous," said Green. The minute she scored everyone just erupted. I've never been so excited in my life." The Panthers held on for two more endless minutes until the final whistle blew, leaving the team to collapse on Nerenberg in a pile of joy and relief.

The horizon suddenly seems bright for a women's program that has long languished in the shadow of the dominant men's rugby team. Middlebury now heads off to UMASS-Amherst for the Northeastern Regional Tournament. "We're just expecting to go out and play our best no matter who we play," said Green. "The worst thing in the world is just to walk off the field knowing you didn't play your best."

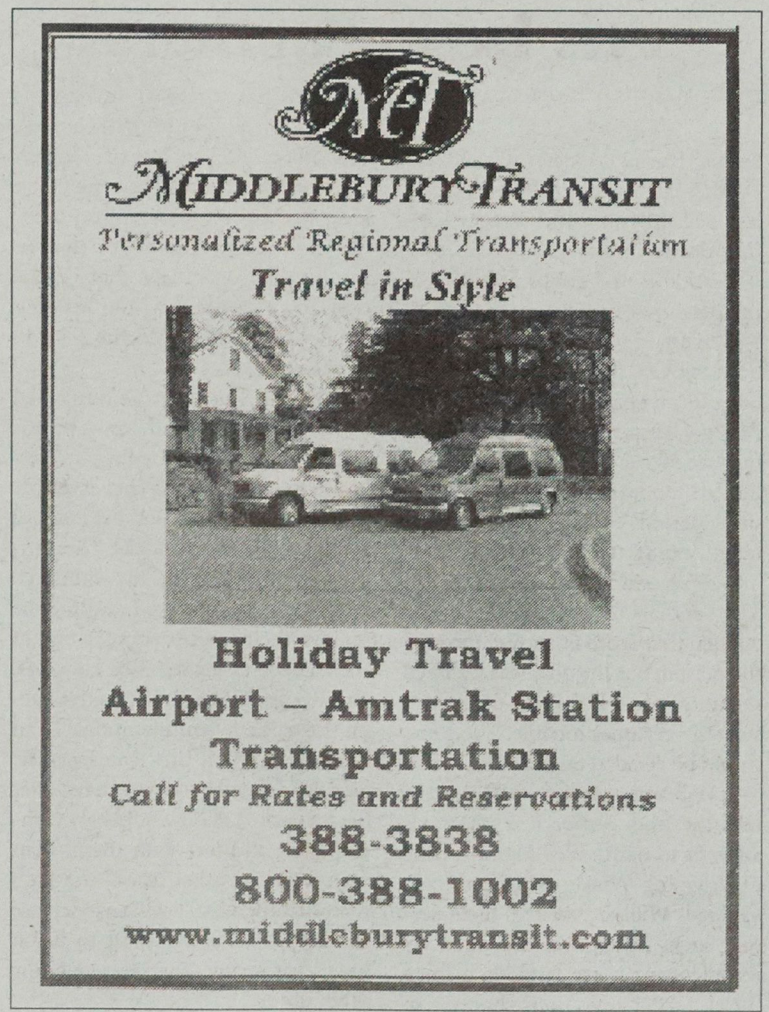
Even more importantly, the New England victory qualified the team to become a member of Division II rugby, an important step in the development of women's rugby at the College. "We have always played up to our competition," said Nerenberg. "I have confidence that we'll be able to make a statement in Division II, and it's really a great step for our program."

Last Chance is the Charm



Vlad Lodoaba

With intramural glory on the line, *the senior feb soccer team Last Chance finally broke through to win the league's championship game.*



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Rugby Rocks New Victim in Shutout

By Jack Donaldson
Staff Writer

The Panther rugby team is one of the most accomplished, powerful team that the school fields, as reflected by its excellent results. And they do it all without hundreds of fans from town or the glitz and glamor that accompanies some of the other sports teams here at Middlebury. As Calvin Garner '06 put it, "[We] go to work and get the job done. Simple as that."

Men's Rugby

Saturday, November 1

Middlebury	78
Geneseo State University	0

This past Saturday, Middlebury manhandled Geneseo State University (SUNY-Geneseo) in the quarterfinals of the Northeast Territorial, winning by a score of 78-0. Many of the people in attendance, including a large proportion of visiting parents were astounded at the high level of play by the Middlebury men. Mike Accordino '06, who confessed that he was only introduced to the sport this year, said that the speed of Middlebury's famed back line, which ran all over the Ivy League this season, "took [his] breath away."

What was particularly notable about this weekend's one-sided duel, was in fact, was the sheer number of people that were in attendance for the game. The team has been successful throughout the season, yet this weekend seemed to be the first time that many students came out to root for their squad. This did not go unnoticed by the players. "Oh, sure, I saw them," said Garner, referring to the noisy students on the knoll, some with signs and body paint, "and I loved it. We loved it. Every athlete wants to see a crowd come and pull for them."

Whether it was the crowd or simply a greater desire to win the game on the day, the Middlebury players dominated the visitors from start to finish, not giving Geneseo any chance to even try to exploit a weakness, in the Middlebury armor. Every man that took the field for wearing the Panther jersey played well, from the regular starters to some of the less experienced members of the team. The all around performance of the men could clearly be seen by the fact that all members of the Middlebury back line were able to cross the line for a try as the scored continued to rise throughout the afternoon. The unrelenting barrage of offensive production by Middlebury, which kept most of the action in Geneseo's half, lasted from the very first minute to the very last. At halftime in the game , with Middlebury already having a commanding lead at 59-0, the reserves were able to shed their warmups and take the field to showcase their talents. In true Middlebury fashion they did not d: appoint, and continued the scoring assault throughout the second half of play.

With the win over Geneseo, Middlebury qualified for the semifinals next Saturday at UMass, where it will likely see the Coast Guard once again. If it wins that game, it will play in the final on Sunday, also at Umass. The team has made it this far by seemling cruising through many of its opponents, but being at the top is making some of the players a little wary. "Maybe, its better not to be the best," mused Garner, channeling a famous speech by Bobby Fisher, "that way, if you lose, it's not a big deal." Then he caught himself and smiled. "But I don't even remember what it feels like to lose. And I don't plan on being reminded." With this kind of determination and ruthlessness running through the team, it will take something pretty special to derail the Middlebury rugby team. Given their form up to this point, the Panthers would be disappointed not to go a long way in the post-season this year, and perhaps a the end of it bring home a national championship.

Vlad Lodoaba

Ngetha Waithaka '04 distributes the ball under the watchful eye of referee and Middlebury Associate Professor of Spanish Miguel Fernandez.

Water Polo Reaches New Milestone

By Chesley Thurber
Opinions Editor

Eliminating three previous champions along the way, the Middlebury Club Water Polo team pounded Wesleyan 15-7 Sunday at Bowdoin to earn its best ever season record and win the National Division III Club Championship title.

Despite holding 4 national championships between them, Trinity University, Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) and Wesleyan were left totally befuddled by Middlebury goalkeeper Charlie Evans '04 and incapable of stopping the aggressive counter-attacks of Rob Hillas '06. Hillas scored early on fast breaks in both of Saturday's games against Trinity and RIT giving a cushion of support for Evans and the Panther defense that had been so strong all year.

Led by long-time veteran Dan Whitmore '03.5 and Adam Rahal '05, Middlebury's defense held Trinity to a meager three goals. The team's own offensive production however was sparse until the fourth quarter when the Panthers deeper bench allowed them to outswim their opponents to break open the game and win 8-3.

RIT proved to be more resilient. Taking advantage of Middlebury's failure to put the ball in the net on some easy chances, it erased an early deficit with strong play at the two-meter position from Dave Richardson and Josh Nauman.

But every time RIT pulled near, Middlebury's Shon Hedges '04 responded with forceful two-meter play of his own. A string of clutch inside goals allowed Middlebury to jump out to a five goal lead in the third quarter. Once again, RIT responded, cutting the lead to two late in the fourth quarter. With two minutes remaining and possession of the ball it seemed poised to score again when Middlebury's Decker Deacon '07 intercepted an RIT pass and a last minute goal sealed the 13-10 victory.

Inspired by the prospect of ending their careers with a national championship, Middlebury's seniors lit up the scoreboard in Sunday's final against Wesleyan to gain a 9-0 halftime lead. With the title in hand, the team was able to play all its players in the second half, already focusing on development for next year. A strong comeback by Wesleyan fell far short and the Panthers won their first national title in the team's short five-year history.

Coach Brian Goodwin was honored for the second consecutive year as "Coach of the Tournament." Evans was named "Most Valuable Player" and along with Whitmore, Rahal, Hedges and Hillas, was named to the all-tournament team.

Club water polo at Middlebury began only in 1999 under Coach Goodwin and the team was comprised mostly of inexperienced players. After the first long seasons filled with lopsided losses, the team progressively improved to become competitive in the New England and North Atlantic divisions of the Collegiate Water Polo Association.

Despite losing to perennial powerhouse Dartmouth and a disappointing loss to Tufts in the semifinals of the North Atlantic regional tourney, the team compiled a dominant 12-2 record along with their national championship. While five seniors will be lost to graduation, a core contingent of four starters will return next fall in the club's effort to repeat its title.

Bowdoin Looms for Soccer

Continued from page 24

drew Stewart '04. "And lately we've played some of the best soccer we've played all year."

Stewart and the rest of the senior class has been a major reason for the recent success. With co-captains Griffiths and Pat Saunders '04 anchoring the defensive duties and providing plenty of leadership, Stewart and Jake Armstrong '04 heading the midfield up, and Matt Scheufele '04, Andy Peters '04, and Andrew Helming '04 coming off the bench to give quality time as substitutes, much of the Panthers' success can be attributed to this veteran group of athletes.

On Saturday all seven of these seniors were part of the starting 11 against Connecticut College, as it was the last home game of the regular season for Middlebury. The seniors, as well as the rest of the team, played extremely well for the first 20 minutes, moving the ball into Connecticut's 18-yard box several times for quality scoring opportunities but coming up short each time. First-year John Sales provided the winning goal in the second half heading in his own rebound for his sixth score of the year.

Middlebury will play 11th ranked Bowdoin at 1:30 this Saturday in Williamstown, Mass, in a battle between two teams riding waves of momentum into the match. Middlebury tied Bowdoin 1-1 on Sept. 28, but the Panthers will have their hands full with their Maine rivals, who have not had a bad outing since that game. The Polar Bears head into the match-up ranked number two in NESCAC, on the heels of a dominant nine game winning streak that saw them surrender only a single goal while scoring 26.

PKs Do in Panthers

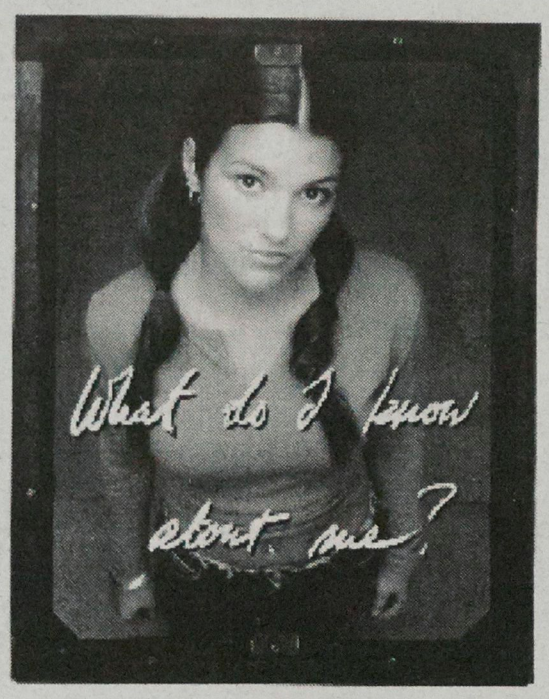
Continued from page 24

keeper Els Van Woert '05 and the Panther defense held Williams scoreless, and the two teams went to halftime deadlocked at zero.

Middlebury continued to put the pressure on Williams in the second half and dominated the Ephs at both ends of the field. It could not, however, manage to get one by the Eph goalkeeper, and the two teams finished 90 minutes still scoreless and headed for overtime. The first overtime period ended without either team finding the net, sending them into a second 10-minute overtime. The Panthers thought they had won it when they scored half way through the period, but the goal was nullified on an offside call that the team considered very questionable. The game would be decided on penalty kicks.

Williams shot first and scored to take the lead. Senior Jess Peterson's attempt to tie it sailed high over the cage, giving Williams the early advantage. Williams netted their second kick, which was answered by Middlebury's Mayo Fujji '05 to keep the deficit at one. Both shooters in the third frame missed, leaving the score at 2-1 in favor of the Ephs with two shooters on each team remaining. Williams capitalized on their kick, putting the pressure on Middlebury's Ashley Varady '05 to keep the Panthers alive. Her shot hit the post and stayed out of the net, and the Ephs advanced with the 3-1 win in penalty kicks.

Coach Boettcher commended her team's effort and said "it was probably the best game the Panthers had played all season." They had outshot the Ephs 27-15 and held an 8-2 advantage on corner kicks. The Panthers were understandably emotional after seeing their season and for the seniors, their careers, come to end in such a devastating manner. However, Green was able to put a positive spin on the game by commenting, "I can honestly say that this team was the best Middlebury team I have ever been a part of, and I would have rather played and lost with them, than won with any other team. Although the outcome wasn't what we felt we deserved, I wouldn't want to finish my career in any other way, with any other group.'



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Field Hockey Team Finishes Perfect Regular Season in Style

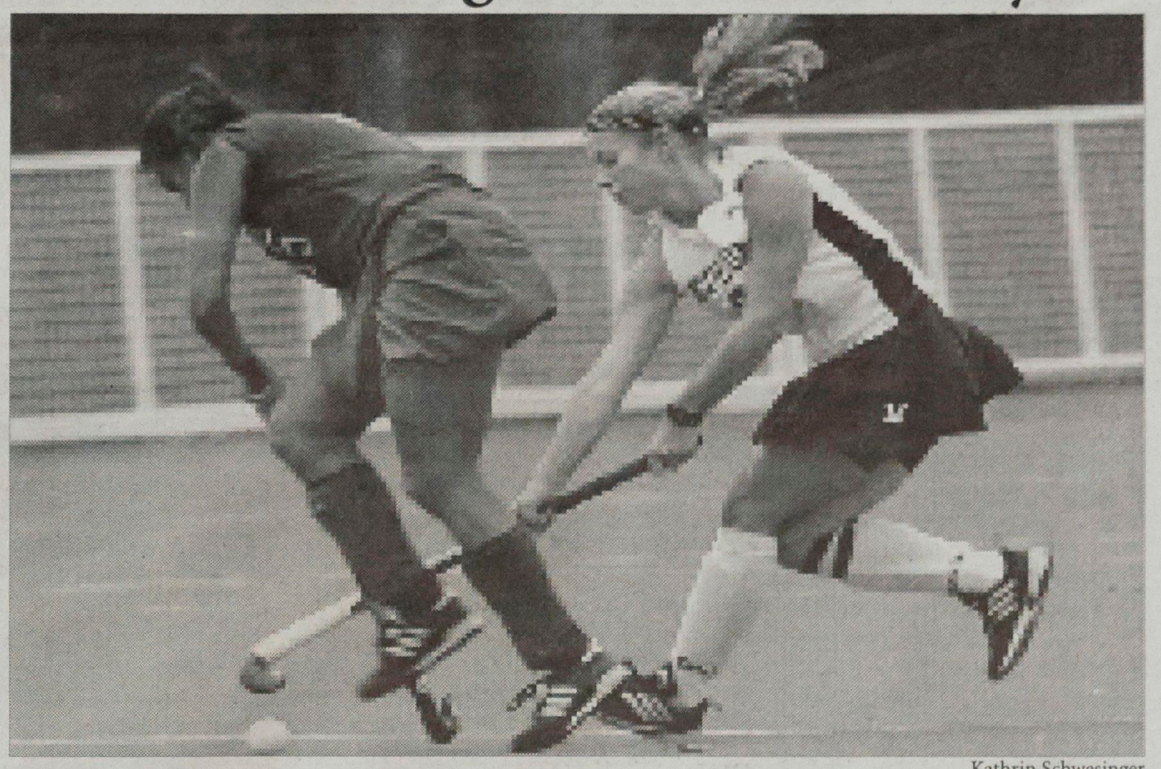
By Tom McCann
Sports Editor

Perfect. No word can better describe the regular season from the Middlebury women's field hockey team. At the start of the season, the Panthers wanted to take it each game at a time and try to improve on the away form that hindered them last year. Well, 14 regular season games later, the field hockey team has not only taken each game as it's come, it's won each and every one too, concluding with a festival of goals in two recent games against Rensselaer (RPI) and Connecticut College at Middlebury.

In a rare non-league game, the Panthers took on Rensselaer last Wednesday and ruthlessly demonstrated the gulf between the two teams in the first three minutes. Abigail Lamb '04 scored her first from an assist by Char Glessner '04 only to double her tally two minutes later and give Middlebury a 2-0 lead after less than five minutes. The Panthers would go on to take a 4-0 lead into the halftime break after goals from Glessner and Missy Krempa '04. The second half was no different as Lamb took her tally to four goals for the game, while Ashley Lyddane '06 also got on the score sheet before Glessner netted her second and Middlebury's eighth. Illustrating the togetherness that characterizes this team, five assists were recorded on the day. Glessner had two, while Channing Weymouth '06, Becca Brakeley '03.5 and Ashley Pullen '05 were also responsible for setting up goals for their teammates.

Saturday pitched Middlebury against Connecticut College in what the Panthers had expected to be a much closer battle than against Rensselaer. RPI's superstar, Huffman, was the player that Middlebury needed to keep an eye on, but Brakeley noted that a fine defensive performance by Krempa meant that she never really had a look in. Middlebury jumped out early in this one with Glessner scoring again, this time from an assist by Lamb. From that point on, Middlebury never looked back, going on to score eight more goals in the contest, conceding nothing, and looking utterly imperious. Glessner would go on to complete her hat-trick, as would Emily Enos '06. Lamb chipped in with two goals in the game, and there was even a rare goal for defender Brakeley. Lamb did not just get it done with goals either. She set a school record with three assists in the game. Weymouth, Krempa and Glessner also assisted goals on the day.

With 17 goals for, 11 assists, and no goals against in its last two games, the Middlebury field hockey team is looking about as good as it possibly can as we move into the opening phase of the post-season. The Panthers will take on Amherst in their first post-season game at home on Saturday at 1:30 p.m. The winner will then move on to play either Williams or Bowdoin on Sunday depending on who comes through that duel, also on Saturday. The match-up with Amherst looks to be a tough one for Middlebury as the Panthers were able to just about sneak away with the win earlier in the season after a slow start. Brakeley noted, "We have a point to prove against Amherst, who have only played one game on turf all season." Whether or not Middlebury has the talent to overcome Amherst is not in question, but the post-season can throw up surprises at any time as just one bad day can spell the end of the season at this stage. As if Middlebury needed any extra incentive to win on Saturday, it is more than likely that should it win. The team would earn an "at-large" bid to the NCAA tournament regardless of the result of the NESCAC final on Sunday. However, as currently regarded as the best team in the country, Middlebury will want to continue its hot steak which will likely culminate in the hosting of the NCAA Regional Tournament at home should they clinch the NESCAC Championship. The women have been perfect so far this season, but this is when it starts getting serious. They are two wins away from the NESCAC Championship, and just a few more from a National Championship. It's still one step at a time though, and maybe, just maybe, this will be *the* year.



Kathrin Schwesinger
Determined to complete its perfect regular season, field hockey dominated Rensselaer and Conn. College last week.

Volleyball Looks to NESCAC Upset

By Dan Russell
Staff Writer

The Middlebury College Women's Volleyball team finished out the season strong, going 2-2 and defeating two conference opponents on the road, thereby ensuring a spot in the upcoming NESCAC tournament.

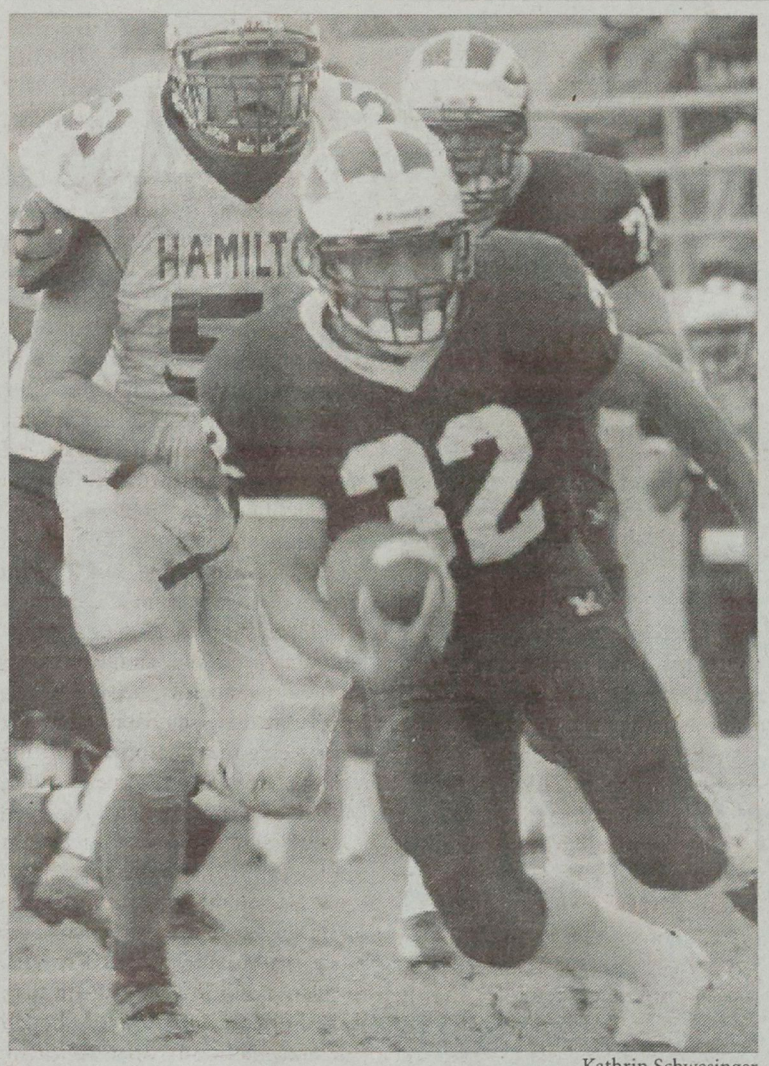
In their final home game of the season, the Panthers sought a measure of revenge against a St. Michael's team that had defeated them in the second game of the year. Although the Panthers fought hard, pushing the game to five matches, winning the second and fourth match, and pushing the third into overtime, they were unable to clinch the final match, losing 16-14. In a losing effort, phenomenal Lacee Patterson '06.5 (13 kills, 15 digs) and Sydney Hartsock '05 (19 kills, 22 digs) had exceptional all-around performances, while Jamie Wong '06 astounded with a season-high 31 digs. Laurie Wollin '05 added 25 digs of her own, and co-captain Danielle Boniello was a force at net with 5 solo blocks.

The Panthers then traveled to Connecticut this past weekend for a a three-game stint against Connecticut College, Trinity and Wesleyan. On Friday, the Panthers easily dispatched the Camels in three straight matches 30-22, 30-12 and 30-22. Co-captains Katy Hicks and Boniello were the stories of the game as they combined for 25 kills, giving Connecticut no opportunity to mount any kind of offensive.

On Saturday, in the first game of a double-header, they faced a Trinity College team they had easily defeated earlier in the year. The second match-up, however, proved to be a more challenging affair as an improved Bantams squad pushed the Panthers to five-games. After winning the first match, the Panthers struggled, falling in the next two. However, they were able to battle back, winning the fourth game and finally prevailing in the fifth, 15-8. Patterson (14 kills, 25 digs) and Hartsock (10 kills, 27 digs) once again demonstrated their versatility, while Hicks amassed an impressive 17 kills. Wollin also made a significant contribution on offense with four service aces. On the defensive end, Wong had another impressive outing with 27 digs while Boniello continued to dominate around the net with two solo blocks and five block assists.

A tired Panthers squad faltered in the second game of the day, losing in four matches (24-30, 30-24, 16-30 26-30) to a strong Wesleyan team. Patterson (12 kills, 20 digs) and Hartsock had (8 kills, 14 digs) once again had strong performances.

Although the season ended on a slightly sour note, captain Hicks remained optimistic about their play and their prospects in the tournament. "I thought we played well. We beat the teams we had to beat. We've played well in past tournaments as a seventh seed, and we're optimistic about our chances and looking forward to a challenge," she said. The Panthers still finished a respectable 12-12, and will be seeded seventh in the NESCAC tourney. They are slated to play Bates in the first round.



Kathrin Schwesinger
Matt Wolf '04 leaves the Hamilton defense scrambling to catch up as he bursts for one of his 83 yards on 16 carries including a touchdown on the day.

Touchdown-fest in Football Win

By Sally Hartman
Staff Writer

When asked if he was anxious about the impending football game against Hamilton early last week, linebacker Rich Decembrele '05 philosophically quoted Van Wilder, "Worrying is like a rocking chair; it gives you something to do but it doesn't get you anywhere."

Decembrele's wisdom paid off on Saturday as the two teams met in what is more affectionately termed the annual "Rocking Chair Classic," whereby the winning team earns the right to take home the wooden rocking chair that bears a plaque recording the previous results between Middlebury and Hamilton football. Created by alumni from both schools to increase competition and rivalry, the bragging rights for this year's game went to the Panthers after crushing Hamilton 55-31.

Offensively, the Panthers both dominated the immediate opposition and smashed two long-standing school records. Quarterback Mike Keenan '05 completed five touchdown passes to lead his team to victory as well as set the school mark in that category. In addition, the offense collectively rushed for 611 yards. Backed by kicker Andy Bohlin '05 who was seven for eight in extra-point conversion attempts, the cooperation and teamwork demonstrated on Friday between the offense and defense was described by an enthusiastic fan as "a well-orchestrated symphony."

Led by the seniors on the team who competed in their last home game this weekend, the football symphony began early in the first quarter as senior Charley Howe caught two of Keenan's passes to put Middlebury firmly in the lead. Despite a touchdown late in the first from Hamilton's Sean Thorsen '05, the Panthers were not discouraged. Early in the second quarter, Keenan connected with Tom Cleaver '04 from 15 yards to up the ante and push Middlebury into the lead by 15. Hamilton would score twice again but not without an emphatic response from the Panthers. In the final seconds of the first half, Middlebury drove 62 yards in 41 seconds capped off by a six-yard touchdown pass to Ryan Armstrong '06.

The third quarter ended with a score of 49-18 in favor of the Panthers after scoring three times on consecutive possessions.

Although Hamilton attempted to regain lost momentum late in the game, the Middlebury defense remained characteristically strong. Senior Brian Erb caught an interception early in the first half after being temporarily out of action for six games with a pulled hamstring. In addition, powerhouse James Galuchie '05 denied a two-point conversion attempt in the first quarter by intercepting the intended pass. Galuchie's teammate Scott Secor '07 also made an interception and led the defense with a total of nine tackles.

At the end of the day, Keenan had completed 22 of 32 attempted passes for a gain of 343 yards and five touchdowns. Matt Wolf '04 scored a touchdown and rushed for 83 yards on 16 carries. Cleaver scored twice after catching a total of 10 passes and 156 yards. Howe's contribution included four catches, three touchdown and 67 yards.

This outstanding performance last weekend was one for the record-books as it tied Middlebury's third highest offensive output in the history of the school with a total of 32 first downs. Overall, the exceptional display put on by the football team this weekend was undoubtedly a perfect way for the departing seniors to play the last home game of their careers.

MEN'S SPORTS THIS WEEK	
Cross Country at ECAC	Nov. 8
Football at Tufts	Nov. 8
Soccer vs Bowdoin (at Williams)	Nov. 8

The Campus Sports

WOMEN'S SPORTS THIS WEEK	
Volleyball vs Bates	Nov. 7
Field Hockey vs Amherst	Nov. 8
Cross Country at ECAC	Nov. 8

Women Capture NESCAC Championship as Hosts

Fifth Win in Six Years for Ladies, Men Slip to Tough Eighth Place

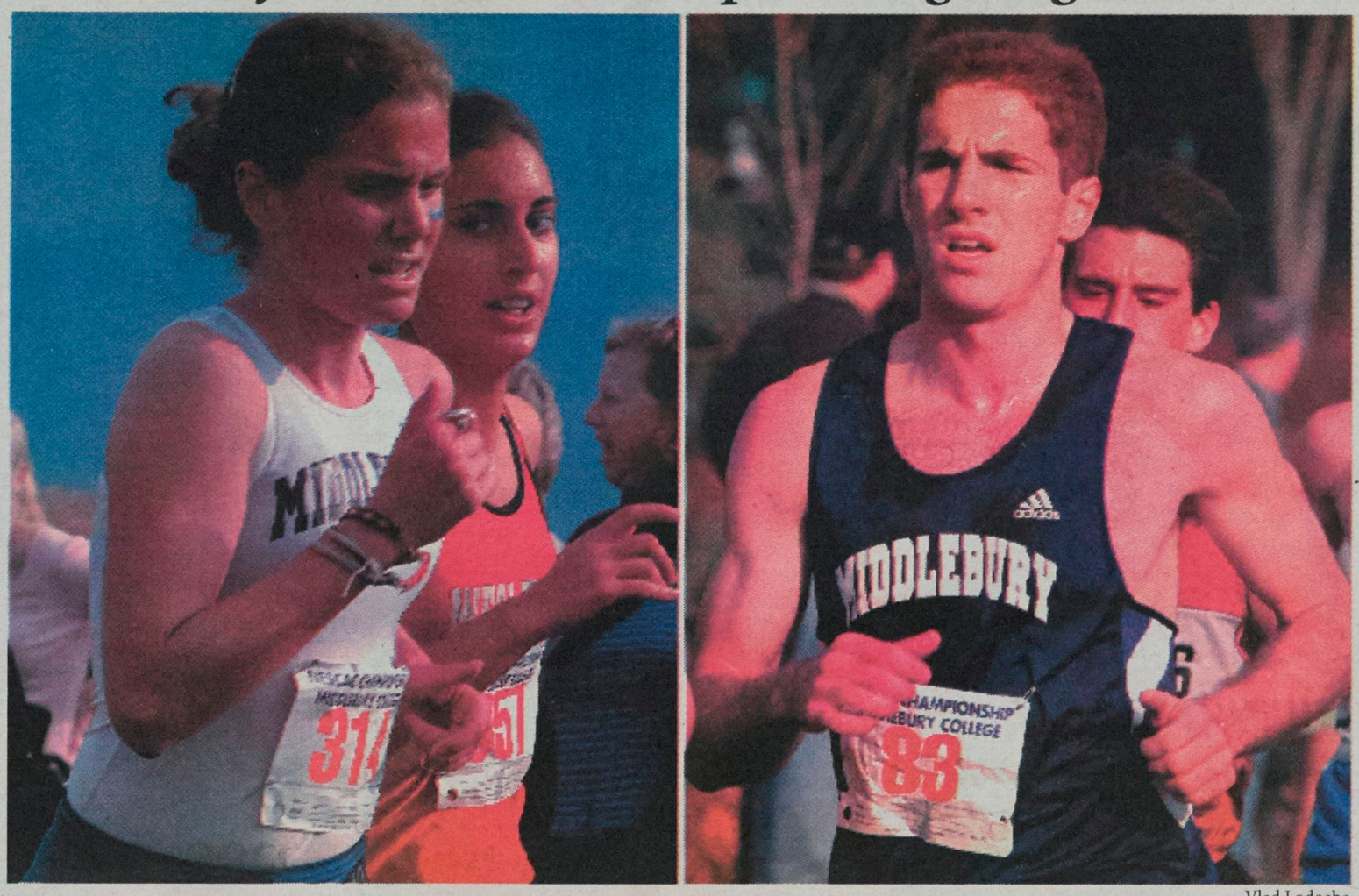
By Ryan Reese
Staff Writer

This Saturday, the Middlebury women's cross country team added to their already impressive collection of championships, titles and overall domination of the opposition. On a day that was almost as beautiful as the outcome of the race, the women's squad won the 2003 NESCAC Women's Cross Country Championships. With a team score of 55 points, the Panthers held off the always difficult runners from Williams and Amherst in order to bring home the title and travel further down the road that leads to Hanover, Ind. and the opportunity to compete for the NCAA Division III National Championship.

Jessica Manzer '05 and senior captain Molly Yazwinski, who finished the 5k race in only 18:25.4 seconds and 18:48.9 seconds respectively, led the Panther attack. These solid fourth and eighth place finishes paved the way for what Manzer described as a "tight pack of Middlebury runners that enabled us to run together and, ultimately, win the title." Manzer also commented on the home-field advantage that kept the Panthers one step ahead of the stiff competition. "It was nice being at home for NESCACs. It is a truly difficult course and I feel that our familiarity with the flow of it gave us a little bit of an advantage." The Middlebury women also outdistanced the competition and undoubtedly dominated the field with an impressive display of determination.

The Middlebury men's squad also turned in a respectable performance in its 8k division of the championship. With an overall eighth place, the men were solid throughout and improved upon a 10th place finish at last year's NESCAC meet. Led by Garrott Kuzzy '06, John Erwin '05 and Nick Digani '05, the Panther men ended up with a team score of 185 points. On a day when the pack from Tufts was simply phenomenal, the Middlebury men forgot about sore legs and ran through intangible barriers only a true runner would recognize. They look to build on this solid performance and challenge the upper echelon squads in the final weeks of the season.

With the Middlebury women carrying the day by bringing home their fifth NESCAC title in six years, there came the requisite celebration surrounding their feat of athletic prowess. However, both the men's and women's teams realized their respite would be short and that their attention needed to shift its focus to the regional meet in Portland, Maine, that will take place in two weeks. "We [the team] feel fairly confident about Regionals. Our main goals are to stay healthy and perform well as a team," Manzer commented With the ultimate goal lying in wait somewhere in the fields of Indiana, the women's team looks poised to contend for another coveted national title in the weeks to come. Keeping the same level of intensity as this weekend will be key to their success though as they move on with their season.



Vlad Lodoaba

Nora Segar '06 contributes to another NESCAC trophy for the women while Nick Dagani '05 and the men's team came home in the middle of the pack.

Men's Soccer Tames Tufts in Quarters

By Dave Freedman
Staff Writer

One rip from co-captain Jason Griffiths '04 was all Middlebury's men's soccer team would need to top Tufts University 1-0 in the first round of the New England Small College Athletic Conference (NESCAC) Tournament on Sunday.

Men's Soccer
Saturday, November 1

Middlebury	1
Tufts	0

The Jumbos goalkeeper deflected senior Andrew Stewart's curving corner kick out of the goalmouth only to see Griffiths place a low shot into the left side of the goal to propel the Panthers into a semifinal match with nationally ranked Bowdoin College at Williams College's Cole Field on Nov. 8.

"It was a great win, a real great win," said Griffiths, who was named NESCAC player of the week for his goal and defensive performance in helping the Panthers secure their 11th shut out of the season. "We are really happy to just be playing next weekend."

The team earned its fourth straight victory in a hard fought game in difficult conditions after days of rain, but in order to keep its championship hopes and NCAA tournament berth goals alive the team will have to step its level of play up even more.

Middlebury had opened the season with an impressive record, only to fall into a midseason slump of two losses and two ties while being held to one goal in five games. Prior to this swoon, the Panthers had been in contention for first place in the NESCAC, and could have possibly found their way into the NCAA postseason without needing to win the NESCAC Championship. The squad had high expectations for this season, but this group of guys doesn't seem to mind the pressure of fulfilling its goals of postseason success the hard way over the coming weeks.

"It's exciting, we're feeling good and defending well," said starter An-

See Bowdoin, page 22

Kathrin Schwesinger

Sam Raymond '05 refuses to give an inch to Connecticut College in the first round of the playoffs.

Women's Soccer Suffers Heartbreak

By Mike Kennedy
Staff Writer

The Middlebury women's soccer season came to an end last weekend in devastating fashion. Williams advanced to the semi-finals in the NESCAC tournament, beating the Panthers 3-1 in penalty kicks after 110 minutes of scoreless play. Middlebury closes its season with an impressive 10-4-1 mark.

A 3-2 victory over Connecticut College last Saturday set up a NESCAC quarterfinal match between the third ranked Ephs and the sixth ranked Panthers on Sunday in Williamstown. Middlebury had beaten Williams 2-1 back on Oct. 11. The winner would advance to the NESCAC semifinals, held at Bowdoin this weekend.

Middlebury came out strong in the first half at Williams, and controlled most of the action. They looked to send Williams a message that they were still the same team that beat them less than a month before. "Beating them earlier in the season gave us the confidence that we could dictate the pace of the game, and come out on top in the end. That they had the higher ranking and the home field did not affect our outlook on the game," said senior co-captain Amanda Green. The Panthers looked to hammer home the message in the first half, out-shooting the Ephs 10-7 and nearly getting on the board when Junior Brittany Cronin's bid from in close sailed high over the net. Goal-

See PKs, page 22